UNITED NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/54/689
S/1999/1272
22 December 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 43
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 22 December 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government and further to our earlier letters concerning Israel's attacks on southern Lebanon and the Western Bekaa and the arbitrary practices against the civilian inhabitants in which it engages on a daily basis, I have the honour to notify you of the series of such incidents that took place in November 1999.

1 November 1999

At 0130 hours Israeli occupation forces fired five 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal Jabbur from the Ahmadiyah hill position.

At 0330 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 0430 and 0520 hours occupying Israeli forces and the Lahad militia collaborating with them fired four 155-mm artillery shells and eight 81-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Bra'shit, Ayta al-Jabal, Tiri and Tibnin from the positions at the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint, Bayt Yahun, Ruwaysat al-Jamus and Ba'lul hill.

Between 0615 and 0655 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South at very high altitudes. At 0625 hours they attacked the area between Zawtar al-Gharbiyah and Qa'qa'iyat al-Jisr, firing an air-to-surface missile.

At 0630 hours the proxy militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Habbush from the Zafatah position.

At 0840 hours the collaborators' militia directed bursts of medium-weapons fire at the area around its position at the Zimriya crossing.

Between 0930 and 1230 hours the collaborators' militia directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at the easternmost neighbourhood of Kafr Tibnit, at Burj hill and at the Kafr Tibnit crossing from the Dahr al-Maydan and Burj hill positions.

Between 1000 and 1200 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South, the Western Bekaa, the North and Mount Lebanon, breaking the sound barrier.

Between 1210 and 1400 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South. At 1300 and 1315 hours, in two waves, they attacked Ayn al-Shamaliyah, between Jarju' and Ayn Bu Siwar, firing two air-to-surface missiles.

Between 1550 and 1825 hours occupation forces and the collaborators' militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm and 81-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Haris, Haddatha, Jabal al-Rafi' and Mazra'at Uqmata from the Ruways, Zafatah and Rayhan positions.

At 1750 and 1825 hours Israeli warplanes attacked outlying areas of Jba' in two waves, firing two air-to-surface missiles.

At 2030 hours occupation forces directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at areas along the Tasah spring from the Ksarat al-Urush position.

Between 2025 and 2245 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South. Between 2035 and 2205 they carried out seven attacks on outlying areas of Jba' and on Mlita hill, firing nine air-to-surface missiles.

Between 2125 and 2200 hours Israeli warplanes carried out four attacks, three on Jabal Abu Rashid and one on the Jabbur pool, firing four air-to-surface missiles.

2 November 1999

Between 0350 and 0530 hours the collaborators' militia fired five 81-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Haddatha, Haris, Ayta al-Jabal and Bra'shit from the Shaqif al-Naml, Ba'lul hill and Ruways positions.

At 1100 and 1125 hours Israeli warplanes attacked Jabal Bir al-Dahr in two waves, firing two air-to-surface missiles.

Between 1400 and 1445 hours occupation forces fired five 155-mm artillery shells at Jabal Maydun from the Abu Qamhah position.

Between 1650 and 1655 hours two Israeli helicopters flew off the Qulaylah coast at very high altitudes.

Between 1710 and 1730 hours Israeli occupation forces fired five 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Majdal Zun, Mansuri and Izziyah from the Tall Ya'qub position.

Between 1805 and 1810 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Tyre area at very high altitudes.

At intervals between 1910 and 2110 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South at various altitudes. At 1910 hours they attacked Wadi Kafra, firing an air-to-surface missile.

Between 2015 and 2030 hours occupation forces fired eight 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas Zibqin and Jibal al-Butm from the Tall Ya'qub position.

3 November 1999

Between 0300 and 0330 hours occupation forces fired 15 120-mm mortar shells at the area around Jabal Jabbur from the Amhadiyah hill position.

Between 0600 and 0605 hours the Lahad proxy militia fired several 120-mm mortar shells at areas along the Zahrahi River towards Habbush from the Zafatah position.

At intervals between 1630 and 1735 hours Israeli occupation forces fired nine 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Khirbat Silm, Majdal Zun, Mansuri and Wadi al-Qaysiyah from the positions at the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint and Tall Ya'qub.

At 1245 hours the collaborators' militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at areas along the Tasah spring, Jabal al-Rafi' and Mazra'at Uqmata from the Zafatah position. A fire broke out between Jarju' and Luwayzah.

Between 1925 and 2225 hours occupation forces and the proxy militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells, 120-mm mortar shells and direct-fire rounds at outlying areas of Yatar, Jibal al-Butm, Zibqin, Majdal Zun, Jabal al-Rafi', Jabal Shwayya and Jabal Abu Rashid from the positions at Tall Ya'qub, Rayhan, Shurayfah hill, Shwayya hill and Ayn Qinya.

Between 2235 and 2245 hours elements of the collaborators' militia directed several bursts of miscellaneous automatic-weapons fire at outlying areas of Haddatha and Haris from the Rshaf position.

Between 2335 and 2345 hours Israeli occupation forces fired eight 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Jibal al-Butm, Zibqin and Shu'aytiyah from the Tall Ya'qub position.

4 November 1999

Muhammad Tawfiq Surur, a driver, was seized by militia agents on his return from Beirut to his home town, Ayta al-Sha'b, and taken to the Khiyam detention camp.

Between 0500 and 0615 hours the collaborators' militia fired several 120-mm mortar shells and 155-mm artillery shells and directed a number of bursts of medium-weapons fire at Jabal al-Rahibat, areas along the Tasah spring and Wadi al-Fatir from the Ahmadiyah hill, Zafatah and Zimriya positions.

Between 0905 and 0930 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South at very high altitudes.

At 1245 hours the collaborators' militia fired four 81-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Tiri, Rshaf and Haddatha from the Shaqif al-Naml position.

Between 1605 and 1825 hours occupying Israeli forces fired 17 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Shaqra, Zibqin, Jibal al-Butm and Shu'aytiyah from the positions at the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint and Tall Ya'qub.

At 1945 hours occupation forces directed several bursts of medium-machine-gun fire at the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks in Nabatiyah and outlying areas of Nabatiyah al-Fawqa from Dabshah hill.

Between 2050 and 2250 hours Israeli occupation forces and the collaborators' militia directed several bursts of medium-machine-gun fire at the easternmost neighbourhood of Yuhmur from the positions at Qal'at al-Shaqif (Château de Beaufort), Tallusah, Markaba and Hula.

Between 2305 and 2340 hours occupation forces and the collaborators' militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and directed a number of bursts of medium-machine-gun fire at outlying areas of Shaqra and Tibnin and at the area around the Sala'ah position from the positions at the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint and Sala'ah.

5 November 1999

At 0445 and 0450 hours Israeli occupation forces and the Lahad proxy militia fired 10 direct-fire rounds, six 120-mm and 81-mm mortar shells and two 155-mm artillery shells and directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at outlying areas of Majdal Zun and Mansuri from the Bayyadah, Shama' and Tall Ya'qub positions.

At 0500 hours an Israeli gunboat off Bayyadah fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

At 0500 hours the Israel Navy stopped a fishing boat with passengers on board off Ra's al-Ayn. It released them at 1200 hours.

At 0520 hours Israeli occupation forces fired two direct-fire nail-type rounds at Nabatiyah al-Fawqa.

At 0555 and 0615 hours the Lahad proxy militia fired 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal al-Rafi' and the area around Burj hill from the Zafatah and Burj hill positions.

At 1410 hours Israeli occupation forces fired several 120-mm artillery shells at Jabal Bir al-Dahr and one shell at the Mimis ridge from the Ayn Qinya position.

At 1455 hours the collaborators' militia fired three direct-fire rounds at Jabal Bir al-Dahr from the Zimriya crossing position.

Between 1730 and 1740 hours Israeli occupation forces fired three 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Shaqra and Majdal Zun from the position at the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint.

Between 1850 and 2150 hours occupying Israeli forces and the proxy militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells, 120-mm mortar shells and direct-fire rounds and directed bursts of medium-weapons fire at outlying areas of Shaqra, Majdal Zun and Bfarwah, at Jabal Safi and at the area around Sujud hill, Ksarat al-Urush and Jabal al-Rafi' from the positions at the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint, Ksarat al-Urush, Sujud hill, Razlan hill and Zafatah.

Between 1650 and 2200 hours occupying Israeli forces fired 44 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal Jabbur from the Ahmadiyah hill position.

At 1410 hours occupation forces and the collaborators' militia fired several 81-mm and 120-mm mortar shells and direct-fire rounds at Jabal Safi, the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks in Nabatiyah al-Fawqa, Wadi al-Kafur, the area around Dabshah hill and areas along the Zahrani River from the Dabshah hill and Zafatah positions.

6 November 1999

At 0000 hours the proxy militia fired five 81-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Haddatha from the Shaqif al-Naml position.

Between 0200 and 0210 hours occupation forces fired 18 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Tibnin, Majdal Silm and Shaqra from the position at the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint.

At 0555 hours the proxy militia fired several artillery shells at areas along the Zahrani River from the Zafatah position.

Between 0600 and 0700 hours the collaborators' militia fired several 81-mm and 120-mm mortar shells and directed bursts of miscellaneous-weapons fire at areas around Bra'shit, Haddatha and Tibnin from the Shaqif al-Naml and Ba'lul hill positions. In Haddatha a 120-mm mortar shell fell on the roof of an unoccupied dwelling and made a breach in it. Two dwellings were hit by medium-weapons rounds, one of them occupied and owned by Nazih Musa Nasir and the other unoccupied. In Bra'shit four dwellings were hit by several pieces of shrapnel and an 81-mm mortar shell fell on the roof of an unoccupied dwelling.

At 0605 hours the collaborators' militia fired four direct-fire rounds and two 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal Bir al-Dahr from the Zwayya and Zaghlah hill positions. Occupation forces also fired six 81-mm mortar shells at an area south of Dallafah from the Ahmadiyah hill position.

At 1100 hours occupying Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at the area around Sujud hill from the Shurayfah position.

Between 1225 and 1400 hours the Lahad proxy militia fired seven 120-mm direct-fire rounds at Jabal Bir al-Dahr from the Ayn Qinya position.

Between 1515 and 1635 hours the collaborators' militia fired 23 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal Bir al-Dahr from the Zaghlah hill and Ahmadiyah hill positions.

Between 2010 and 2030 hours Israeli occupation forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at areas around Sujud hill from the Shurayfah position.

Between 2050 and 2100 hours Israeli occupation forces fired eight 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Jibal al-Butm, Shu'aytiyah and Siddiqin from the Tall Ya'qub position.

7 November 1999

At 0040 hours an Israeli helicopter fired an air-to-surface missile in the Tayr Harfa area north-east of Yatar.

Between 0610 and 0635 hours the collaborators' militia fired several 120-mm mortar shells at areas along the Zahrani River from the Zafatah position.

Between 0430 and 0500 hours occupation forces fired four 155-mm artillery shells at Jabal al-Za'tar from the position at the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint.

Between 0640 and 0700 hours an Israeli gunboat off Amiriyah fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

During the night of 6/7 November and up to 0650 hours occupation forces fired 30 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal Bir al-Dahr and Dahr al-Jinzir from the Ahmadiyah hill and Abu Qamhah positions.

At 1100 hours the Lahad proxy militia fired eight 120-mm mortar shells at an area to the west of Jabal al-Rahibat from the Ahmadiyah hill position.

At 0905 hours an Israeli gunboat off Rashidiyah camp fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

At 1240 hours Israeli occupation forces and the Lahad proxy militia fired several 120-mm mortar shells at Mazra'at Uqmata and Mlita hill from the two Rayhan positions.

Between 1715 and 1835 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South at very high altitudes.

At 1920 hours Israeli occupation forces and the proxy militia fired 10 81-mm and 120-mm mortar shells at the southernmost neighbourhood of Arabsalim and at an outlying area beyond the government school from the Rayhan, Zafatah and Suwayda hill positions.

Between 1920 and 2230 hours occupying Israeli forces and the Lahad proxy militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells, 120-mm and 81-mm mortar shells and two direct-fire rounds at outlying areas of Jba', at areas along the Zahrani River and the Tasah spring and at the area around Sujud hill from the positions at Zafatah, Rayhan, Ksarat al-Urush and Razlan hill.

8 November 1999

Between 0420 and 0615 hours occupation forces and the proxy militia fired 15 155-mm artillery shells and one 81-mm mortar shell at outlying areas of Yatar, Haddatha, Tibnin, Bra'shit, Wadi al-Qaysiyah and the area around the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks in Nabatiyah from the positions at the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint, Tall Ya'qub and Dabshah hill.

At 0540 and 0555 hours occupying Israeli forces and the Lahad militia collaborating with them fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm and 81-mm mortar shells and one direct-fire round at outlying areas of Majdal Zun and Mansuri from the Tall Ya'qub, Bayyadah and Hardun positions.

At 0645 hours the collaborators' militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at Wadi al-Kafur from the Zafatah position.

Between 0830 and 0930 hours the proxy militia at the position at the Zimriya crossing directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at the area around the crossing itself.

At 0830 hours the proxy militia removed Ali Abd al-Majid Sharaf al-Din from the Kafr Tibnit crossing. He was questioned and released.

Between 1025 and 1130 hours occupation forces and the proxy militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm mortar shells at the area around Sujud hill, areas along the Tasah spring and Mlita hill from the positions at Zafatah, Ksarat al-Urush, Razlan hill and Sujud hill.

At 1040 hours the Lahad proxy militia fired an 81-mm mortar shell at an outlying area of Bra'shit from the Tall Ya'qub position.

Between 1345 and 1525 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South at various altitudes. At 1415 hours they attacked outlying areas of Majdal Zun, firing an air-to-surface missile.

Between 1835 and 2015 hours Israeli occupation forces fired several 120-mm mortar shells at the area around Sujud hill from the Ksarat al-Urush position.

At 2120 hours occupation forces fired five 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Yatar from the Tall Ya'qub position.

During the night the collaborators' militia arrested Ayman Muhammad Surur and Yusuf Muhammad Surur in Ayta al-Sha'b and took them to Khiyam prison.

9 November 1999

At 0050 hours the collaborators' militia fired three 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal Jabbur from the Ahmadiyah hill position.

Between 0215 and 0530 hours the proxy militia directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at outlying areas of Majdal Zun, Mansuri and Buyut al-Siyad

from the positions at Bayyadah, Hardun hill and the Hamra crossing. It also launched six illumination flares over these same positions.

Between 0520 and 0550 hours occupation forces fired 22 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Tibnin, Shaqra, Yatar, Kafra, Jibal al-Butm, Siddiqin and Rishknaniyah from the positions at the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint and Tall Ya'qub.

Between 0850 and 0900 hours an Israeli gunboat off Bayyadah fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 1025 and 1335 hours Israeli warplanes overflew all parts of Lebanon at very high altitudes, breaking the sound barrier. Two Israeli helicopters also flew over Jabal al-Ruhban, Jabal Jabbur and Jabal Abu Rashid.

At 1225 hours the collaborators' militia fired two 155-mm artillery shells at Mazra'at Uqmata from the Zafatah position.

Between 1235 and 1245 hours the Lahad proxy militia fired several 81-mm mortar shells and directed a number of bursts of medium-weapons fire at outlying areas of Arabsalim, Humin al-Fawqa and Habbush from the Suwayda hill position. A fire broke out and, in Arabsalim, an occupied dwelling belonging to Ali Muhammad Hasan was hit by shrapnel.

Between 1310 and 1340 hours Israeli occupation forces fired four 155-mm artillery shells at Wadi al-Qaysiyah from the position at the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint.

At 1315 hours Israeli warplanes attacked outlying areas of Sawwanah, Khirbat Silm and Tulin, firing two air-to-surface missiles. Substantial damage was done to four dwellings in Khirbat Silm, three of which were occupied. The dwellings belong to Zakariya Muhammad Nur al-Din, Mustafa Muhammad Nur al-Din, Muhammad Ali Sawi and Salimah Khalil Majid.

Between 1615 and 1645 hours Israeli occupation forces fired eight 155-mm artillery shells at Jabal al-Jabbur from the Shurayfah hill position.

At 1620 hours occupation forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Rayhan and an area to the east of Mlikh from the Shurayfah position.

Between 1620 and 1650 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South. At 1625 hours they attacked Khirbat Silm and Sawwanah, firing an air-to-surface missile. Window panes in the home of former deputy Abd Allah al-Amin in Sawwanah were broken.

Between 1830 and 2150 hours occupation forces and the collaborators' militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm mortar shells at the area around Sujud hill, areas along the Tasah spring, Jabal al-Rafi' and Jba' from the Shurayfah, Zafatah and Dabshah hill positions. A number of 81-mm mortar shells and bursts of medium-weapons fire were also directed at outlying

areas of Nabatiyah al-Fawqa, areas around Qasr Ghandur and outlying areas of Kafr Rumman.

Between 2010 and 2125 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South. At 2100 hours they attacked areas around the position of the collaborators' militia at Bi'r Kilab, firing an air-to-surface missile. Israeli helicopters and reconnaissance aircraft also overflew the Jabal al-Rafi', Ksarat al-Urush, Jabal Bir al-Dahr, Marj al-Zuhur, Qilya, Maydun, Jabal al-Rahibat and Jabal Jabbur areas.

10 November 1999

At 0840 and 0900 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew Jabal Bir al-Dahr.

Between 1730 and 1750 hours two Israeli helicopters overflew the Hasbayya and Kawkaba areas.

At 1750 hours occupation forces and the collaborators' militia at the Dabshah hill and Ali al-Tahir hill positions directed several bursts of medium-machine-gun fire at the areas around Qasr Ghandur and around the two hills themselves.

At 1900 hours two Israeli gunboats offshore between Ra's al-Ayn and Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

At 2045 hours occupying Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm and 81-mm mortar shells and directed a number of bursts of medium-weapons fire at outlying areas of Kafr Rumman, areas along the Zahrani River and the area around Suwayda hill from the Shurayfah, Zafatah and Suwayda hill positions.

At 2050 hours occupation forces fired six 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Haddatha from the Tall Ya'qub position.

During the day, for reasons unknown, elements of the Lahad proxy militia's security service in Ayta al-Sha'b arrested Husayn Abd al-Majid Surur (mother's name Subhiyah, from Ayta al-Sha'b and a resident there) and took him to Khiyam prison.

11 November 1999

Between 0000 and 0130 hours an Israel command aircraft and an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the South at very high altitudes.

Between 0000 and 0700 hours the collaborators' militia at the Zafatah, Burj hill and Ali al-Tahir hill positions fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm mortar shells and directed a number of bursts of medium-weapons fire at outlying areas of Jba' and Jabal al-Rafi' and at areas around the two hills themselves. It also launched two illumination flares over the area around Ali al-Tahir hill.

Between 0330 and 0430 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South. At 0345 hours they attacked Jabal al-Rafi', firing an air-to-surface missile.

Between 0400 and 0650 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri launched three illumination flares over the shore and fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 0405 and 0630 hours occupying Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Zibqin, Jibal al-Butm, Majdal Zun, Izziyah, Yatar, Hirbin, Bra'shit, Haddatha, Tibnin and Wadi al-Qaysiyah from the positions at Tall Ya'qub and the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint.

At 0830 hours the collaborators' militia fired several medium-weapons rounds at the easternmost neighbourhood of Kafr Tibnit from the Burj hill position without causing damage.

At 0835 hours the collaborators' militia fired six 120-mm mortar shells at outlying areas Haddatha, Sribbin and Rshaf from the Jabal Hamid position.

At 1405 hours the Lahad proxy militia directed a burst of medium-weapons fire at a point beyond Jabal Bir al-Dahr from the Zimriya position.

Between 1625 and 1840 hours the collaborators' militia fired several 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal al-Rafi' and areas along the Tasah spring from the Zafatah position.

12 November 1999

At 0630 hours outlying areas of Khirbat Silm, Sawwanah, Majdal Silm and Wadi al-Qaysiyah came under Israeli artillery fire. At 0650 and 0655 hours hostile aircraft attacked Wadi al-Qaysiyah in two waves, firing four air-to-surface missiles. There were no reports of casualties.

At 1000 hours the Israeli artillery bombardment of outlying areas of Khirbat Silm, Sawwanah, Majdal Silm and Wadi al-Qaysiyah that had begun at 0630 hours came to a halt.

At 1100 hours clashes in which various types of weapons were used took place between elements of the National Resistance and Israeli and Lahad militia forces in the Jabal al-Rayhan area and continued until 1700 hours. There were no reports of casualties.

At 1145 hours outlying areas of Tibnin, Kafra, Ayta al-Jabal, Haddatha and Bra'shit came under Israeli artillery fire. In Kafra, the homes of two Lebanese were damaged, namely those of Ramiz Muhammad Abbadi, 40, and Ali Musa Yahya, 50.

At 0630 hours outlying areas of Nabatiyah al-Fawqa and the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks there as well as Wadi al-Kafur came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 0850 hours Israeli warplanes attacked outlying areas of Shu'aytiyah and Jibal al-Butm, firing several air-to-surface missiles. There were no reports of

casualties. At 1140 hours outlying areas of Siddiqin and Ramadi were similarly bombarded.

At 1145 hours outlying areas of Arabsalim, Jarju' and Ayn Bu Siwar, areas along the Tasah spring and the Zahrani River and the main road between Humin al-Fawqa and Jisr al-Sitt Zubaydah came under Israeli artillery fire and hostile warplanes also attacked the Mlita hills. At 1230 hours outlying areas of Zawtar al-Gharbiyah, Mayfadun and Qa'qa'iyat al-Jisr came under Israeli artillery fire that continued until 1600 hours. Dwellings belonging to the following Lebanese residents of Jarju' were damaged: Zahrah Tawfiq Duwayk, 50; Muhammad Yusuf al-Shami, 68; Musa Shukri al-Salibi, 79; Muhammad Husayn Duwayk, 29; Adil Husayn Duwayk, 51; Subhiyah Ahmad Darwish, 69; Ali Hani Darwish, 39; and Muhammad Hani Darwish, 41. Four vehicles, the Husayni Club, the municipal building and power transmission lines were also damaged in Jarju'. In Arabsalim homes belonging to Muhammad Hasan Musa, 57, and to Mahmud Ali Haydar and Yusuf Ali Haydar (not further identified) were also damaged and fire broke out in a private olive grove.

At 1200 hours outlying areas of Qilya and Zillaya in the Western Bekaa came under Israeli artillery fire. The home of Ali Salman Nasir, 64, a Lebanese resident of Qilya, was damaged.

At 1230 hours outlying areas of Majdal Zun, Mansuri, Hinniyah and Izziyah came under Israeli artillery fire.

Between 1230 and 1245 hours the collaborators' militia fired several 120-mm mortar shells at the area around Khilya and at Jabal Bir al-Dahr.

Between 1430 and 1445 hours Israeli warplanes and reconnaissance aircraft overflew the South and the Western Bekaa at various altitudes. At 1435 hours they attacked Mlita hill, firing an air-to-surface missile.

At 1755 hours the collaborators' militia fired three 155-mm artillery shells at Mazra'at al-Hamra and the Yuhmur al-Shaqif lowland from Zafatah.

At 2130 hours the proxy militia fired three 120-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Kunit, inside the occupied strip, from the Bayt Yahun position.

13 November 1999

Between 0100 and 0530 hours the Lahad militia collaborating with Israel fired seven 120-mm mortar shells and eight 81-mm mortar shells at an area to the west of Jabal Jabbur and the Dallafah spring from Ahmadiyah hill. It also directed bursts of medium-weapons fire at Wadi al-Fatir from Zimriya hill.

At 0905 hours an Israeli gunboat off Bayyadah fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 0935 and 0945 hours the collaborators' militia fired two 155-mm artillery shells and directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at

Jabal al-Rafi', Mazra'at Uqmata and the easternmost neighbourhood of Kafr Tibnit from the positions at Rayhan and Ali al-Tahir hill.

At 1100 hours the collaborators' militia fired two direct-fire rounds at the area around Sujud hill from the Razlan hill position.

At 1940 hours the Lahad proxy militia fired eight 120-mm shells at the area around Jabal Jabbur from Ahmadiyah hill.

Between 1830 and 2015 hours occupation forces fired several 120-mm mortar shells at the area around the Sujud hill position, Mazra'at Uqmata and outlying areas of Jba' from the Rayhan position.

During the day the Resistance announced that three of its members had been killed on the previous day, 12 November, in Iqlim al-Tuffah. They were: Ahmad Fayyad Subayti; Sa'id Fawzi Qarran; and Ali Zuhayr Zuhri.

At 1645 and 1650 hours occupation forces and the collaborators' militia fired several 81-mm mortar shells at areas along the Litani River from the Sala'ah position.

At 1840 hours Israeli warplanes attacked outlying areas of Zawtar al-Gharbiyah and Zawtar al-Sharqiyah towards the Litani River, firing an air-to-surface missile. In Zawtar al-Gharbiyah windows were broken in six houses, belonging to the following residents: Husayn Munif Nami; Mustafa Muhammad Harbi; Sulayman Husayn Unaysi; Basimah Suwaydan; Abd al-Karim Harbi; and Jamil Husayn Darwish.

At 1850 and 1910 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri and Qulaylah fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

14 November 1999

In Ayta al-Sha'b during the day the proxy militia arrested Hasan Husayn Surur and Ibrahim Hasan Nassar, both from and residents of the town, and took them to Khiyam prison.

Between 0000 and 0015 hours occupation forces fired four 155-mm artillery shells at Jabal al-Za'tar and outlying areas of Bra'shit from the position at the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint.

At 0410 hours Israeli occupation forces directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at outlying areas of Yuhmur from Qal'at al-Shaqif (Château de Beaufort).

At 0800 hours occupation forces and the proxy militia fired 24 155-mm artillery shells, five 120-mm mortar shells and four direct-fire rounds and directed bursts of medium-weapons fire at outlying areas of Jibal al-Butm, Zibqin, Izziyah, Majdal Zun and Mansuri from the Hardun hill and Jabal Balat positions.

At 1220 hours the proxy militia directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at Jabal Bir al-Dahr from the Zwayya position.

At 1320 hours occupation forces and the collaborators' militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells, 120-mm mortar shells and direct-fire rounds at Jabal al-Rafi', Jabal Safi and Uqmata and areas around Sujud hill from Sujud hill, Suwayda hill, Zafatah and Shurayfah.

At 1725 hours Israeli occupation forces fired several 120-mm mortar shells at areas around the 4th Intervention Battalion's base from the Ksarat al-Urush position.

Between 1820 and 2025 hours occupation forces and the collaborators' militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and directed bursts of medium-weapons fire at Mlita hill, areas along the Tasah spring, the area around Sujud hill and the town of Mlikh from the Zafatah, Ksarat al-Urush, Shurayfah and Sujud hill positions.

15 November 1999

Between 0330 and 0445 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 0730 and 0740 hours the proxy militia fired several 120-mm mortar shells at the area around Sujud hill from the Rayhan position.

Between 0730 and 1230 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Shuf, the South and the Western Bekaa at various altitudes.

Between 1440 and 1540 hours occupation forces and the collaborators' militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at the area around Sujud hill and outlying areas of Kafr Hunah from the Zafatah, Shurayfah and Sujud hill positions. A tank round also fell in an outlying area between Sarba and Humin al-Fawqa.

At 1835 and 1935 hours the proxy militia fired several 120-mm mortar shells at the Abbas intersection outside Jba'.

At 1900 hours the Lahad militia collaborating with Israel fired three 100-mm mortar shells at Jabal Bir al-Dahr from the Abu Qamhah position.

16 November 1999

At 0945 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Nabatiyah area, carrying out mock attacks in Iqlim al-Tuffah.

At 1700 hours outlying areas of Siddiqin, Ramadiyah and Jibal al-Butm and the Asi locality in Siddiqin came under heavy Israeli artillery fire from the Israeli enemy's positions in the border strip. Israeli warplanes also attacked the outskirts of Ramadiyah, Siddiqin and Jibal al-Butm, firing several air-to-surface missiles.

At 1745 and 1900 hours hostile aircraft attacked Jibal al-Butm, Ramadiyah, Siddiqin and Asi in three waves, firing some 10 air-to-surface missiles. There were no reports of casualties.

At 1710 hours outlying areas of Yatar came under Israeli artillery fire. Hostile aircraft attacked the Nattarah locality near the same town, firing several air-to-surface missiles. The bombardment stopped at 2100 hours. There were no reports of casualties.

17 November 1999

In Ibl al-Saqi during the day occupation forces and the proxy militia arrested Ghassan Sulayman Mundhir, a resident of the town, and took him to Khiyam prison.

Between 0005 and 0300 hours the collaborators' militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at the area around the Sujud hill position from the Zafatah position.

Between 0555 and 0620 hours the collaborators' militia fired several 81-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Bra'shit from the Ba'lul hill position. Two occupied dwellings were hit, those of Musa Muhammad Ibrahim Shihab and Najib al-Husayn Shihab. Two vehicles belonging to the latter were also hit by several pieces of shrapnel.

Between 0610 and 0630 hours the proxy militia fired three 120-mm mortar shells at areas along the Litani River from the Muhaysibat position.

Between 0950 and 1140 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South, Mount Lebanon, the North and the Bekaa at very high altitudes, breaking the sound barrier over the Bekaa.

At 1100 hours an Israeli gunboat off Ra's al-Ayn fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 1100 and 1145 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Nabatiyah and Iqlim al-Tuffah areas at very high altitude.

Between 1400 and 1420 hours the collaborators' militia fired three 81-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Bra'shit from the Ba'lul hill position to the south.

At 1545 hours the proxy militia fired several direct-fire rounds at outlying areas of Arabsalim from the Zafatah and Suwayda hill positions. A 120-mm mortar shell impacted in the easternmost neighbourhood of the town, and a woman resident, Zaynab Ahmad Salih, was struck in the right leg by a piece of shrapnel.

Between 1600 and 1700 hours occupation forces and the collaborators' militia fired four direct-fire rounds, three 120-mm mortar shells and four 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Majdal Zun, Izziyah and Mansuri from the Shama', Hardun hill and Tall Ya'qub positions.

In the shelling, three occupied dwellings in the easternmost neighbourhood of Arabsalim belonging to Sa'di Ali Harb, Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Abu Hashim and Ahmad and Hasan Ali Harb were hit.

At 1900 hours Israeli warplanes attacked outlying areas of Mazra'at al-Hamra in three waves, firing three air-to-surface missiles.

Between 2000 and 2030 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Iqlim al-Tuffah and Nabatiyah areas at very high altitude.

Between 2000 and 2130 hours the collaborators' militia and occupation forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm and 81-mm mortar shells and directed bursts of medium-weapons fire at areas along the Tasah spring, Mlita hill, Mazra'at Uqmata and the areas around Tahrah hill and Sujud hill from the Shurayfah, Zafatah, Sujud hill and Tahrah hill positions.

Between 2115 and 2130 hours occupation forces fired seven 155-mm artillery shells at Jabal Bir al-Dahr from the Shurayfah position and launched an illumination flare over Maydun hill.

At 2120 hours the proxy militia directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at Wadi al-Fatir from the Ayn Qinya position.

18 November 1999

Between 0000 and 0230 hours an Israeli bulldozer cleared a road from a point west of Qal'at al-Shaqif (Château de Beaufort) to a point inside Arnun near the home of Ali Ghazzal and running through an olive grove belonging to Nasir Alawiyah and a plot of land belonging to Isam Ajami.

Between 0930 and 1400 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Mount Lebanon, the Bekaa and the South at very high altitudes. An Israeli reconnaissance aircraft also overflew the Maydun and Jabal Bir al-Dahr area at very high altitude.

Between 0600 and 0620 hours the collaborators' militia and occupation forces fired three 155-mm artillery shells, seven 120-mm mortar shells and four direct-fire rounds and directed bursts of medium-weapons fire at outlying areas of Majdal Zun, Izziyah, Mansuri and Haddatha from the Tall Ya'qub, Shaqif al-Nahl and Hardun hill positions.

Between 1215 and 1230 hours the proxy militia fired 14 60-mm and 81-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Qasr and Ghanduriyah and at Wadi al-Jamir.

Between 1615 and 1725 hours the Lahad proxy militia fired several 81-mm and 120-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Bra'shit from Ba'lul hill and a number of 120-mm mortar shells at the area around Sujud hill from the Rayhan position.

Between 1725 and 1925 hours occupation forces and the collaborators' militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and directed a number of bursts of medium-weapons fire at Mazra'at Uqmata, an area south-east of Luwayzah, areas along the Tasah spring, areas along the Zahrani River and Wadi Habbush from the Shurayfah, Zafatah and Suwayda hill positions.

Between 2010 and 2120 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South and the Western Bekaa at various altitudes. At 2025 and 2100 hours they attacked areas along the Tasah spring in three waves, firing three air-to-surface missiles.

19 November 1999

At 0820 hours the collaborators' militia at the Burj hill and Ali al-Tahir positions fired several 81-mm mortar shells and directed a number of bursts of medium- and light-weapons fire at areas around those two positions and at the Kafr Tibnit crossing and the easternmost neighbourhood of Kafr Tibnit. Two residents, Hasan Amin Hijazi and Tawfiq Muhammad Salam, were hit by bullets. At the Kafr Tibnit crossing three civilian vehicles were also hit by various rounds.

At 0515 hours Israeli occupation forces fired five 155-mm artillery shells at Wadi al-Qaysiyah from the position at the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint.

It transpired that, in the shelling of the easternmost neighbourhood of Kafr Tibnit at 0820 hours, two residents were injured, with Ala' Hasan Jabir receiving wounds and Khidr Kamal Jabir contusions. Three dwellings, those of Ali Muhammad Faqih, Ali Hasan Illawsh and Ali Salim Sharaf al-Din, were hit by several rounds. The town's government school was also hit and sustained substantial damage.

At 0145 hours the proxy militia fired three 81-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Arabsalim from the Suwayda hill position.

Between 1430 and 1545 hours the Lahad proxy militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 81-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Bra'shit, Mazra'at Uqmata and Mlita hill from the Zafatah and Ba'lul hill positions.

Between 1900 and 2005 hours the proxy militia fired eight 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal Bir al-Dahr, Luwayzah and Surayrah from the Ahmadiyah hill position. It also launched 18 illumination flares over the same areas.

At 2120 hours the Lahad militia collaborating with Israel directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire from the Shaqif al-Naml position at outlying areas of the town.

20 November 1999

Between 0000 and 0010 hours the collaborators' militia and Israeli occupation forces fired five 155-mm artillery shells and eight 120-mm and 81-mm mortar shells and directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at outlying areas of Majdal Silm and Wadi al-Qaysiyah from the positions at Hula, Tallusah and the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint.

Between 0410 and 0420 hours occupying Israeli forces fired several 81-mm mortar shells and directed a number of bursts of medium-weapons fire at outlying areas of Nabatiyah and the area around Qasr Ghandur from the Dabshah hill position.

Between 1630 and 1645 hours the collaborators' militia directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at Mlita hill from Sujud hill.

Between 2110 and 2130 hours the collaborators' militia fired several 120-mm mortar shells at areas along the Litani River from the Zafatah position.

21 November 1999

Between 0000 and 0230 hours occupying Israeli forces and the proxy militia in the positions at Tahrah hill, Ali al-Tahir hill and Dabshah hill fired several direct-fire rounds and directed bursts of medium-weapons fire at areas around the three hills.

Between 0500 and 0600 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

At 0635 hours the collaborators' militia fired two direct-fire rounds at outlying areas of Mansuri from the Shama' hill position.

At 1530 hours the collaborators' militia and occupation forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells and direct-fire rounds at the area around Sujud hill from the Shurayfah and Rayhan positions.

At 1850 hours the proxy militia fired seven direct-fire rounds at the area around Sujud hill from the Rayhan position.

Between 2115 and 2125 hours occupation forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at the area around Sujud hill from the Shurayfah position.

22 November 1999

At 0620 hours the proxy militia fired several 120-mm mortar shells and directed bursts of medium-weapons fire at areas along the Zahrani River, Wadi Habbush and areas along the Tasah spring from the Suwayda hill and Zafatah positions. A dwelling belonging to Yusuf Abd Allah Musa was hit.

Between 0720 and 0735 hours Israeli occupation forces fired 10 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Zibqin, Shu'aytiyah, Izziyah and Majdal Zun from the Tall Ya'qub position.

At 0835 hours Israeli warplanes attacked outlying areas of Shu'aytiyah and Majdal Zun, firing an air-to-surface missile.

Between 1640 and 1650 hours occupation forces fired a 155-mm artillery shell at an outlying area of Majdal Zun from the Tall Ya'qub position.

At 1745 hours Israeli warplanes attacked outlying areas of Majdal Zun and Mansuri, firing an air-to-surface missile.

Between 1920 and 1945 hours the collaborators' militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at the Yuhmur lowland and Wadi al-Kafur from the Zafatah position.

At 2120 hours Israeli occupation forces directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at the area around the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks in Nabatiyah, at Qasr Ghandur and at outlying areas of Nabatiyah al-Fawqa from the Dabshah hill position.

Between 2100 and 2130 hours the Lahad militia collaborating with Israel fired seven 155-mm artillery shells at Jabal Abu Rashid and Wadi Habib from the Abu Qamhah position.

During the day it became known that among those being held by occupying Israeli forces and the proxy militia was Hassan Muhammad Hubb Allah, head of the Religious Education Association.

23 November 1999

Between 0000 and 0030 hours occupation forces and the proxy militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells, 120-mm mortar shells and direct-fire rounds at Wadi al-Kafur, Mazra'at al-Hamra, areas along the Habbush River and Jafur hill.

Between 0330 and 0500 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions. Occupying Israeli forces fired several 60-mm mortar shells and directed bursts of medium-weapons fire at the easternmost neighbourhood of Yuhmur from the position at Qal'at al-Shaqif (Château de Beaufort). An occupied dwelling, that of Khalidah Yusuf Sa'id, a resident of Yuhmur, was hit and substantial damage was done.

For reasons unknown, at 0630 hours in Arnun elements of the security service of the collaborators' militia arrested Shamlakan Husayn Assaf and Samirah Hasan Atiyah, both residents of the town, and took them to an unknown destination.

Between 0745 and 0750 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

At 2005 and 2020 hours an Israeli gunboat off Tyre and Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 1425 and 1430 hours the collaborators' militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal al-Rafi' and the area around Sujud hill from the Zafatah position.

Between 1510 and 1800 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South at high altitudes.

24 November 1999

Between 0000 and 0710 hours the Lahad proxy militia fired 36 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal Bir al-Dahr and Jabal Jabbur from the Ahmadiyah hill and Abu Qamhah positions.

Between 0400 and 0450 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Nabatiyah and Jabal Bir al-Dahr areas at very high altitudes.

Between 0640 and 0720 hours Israeli occupation forces and the collaborators' militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Hawwata, Bra'shit and Tibnin from the positions at the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint, Ba'lul hill and Shaqif al-Naml.

Between 1905 and 2140 hours occupying Israeli forces and the collaborators' militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at Wadi al-Qaysiyah and a number of 120-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Jba' from the positions at the Mays al-Jabal checkpoint and Rayhan.

Between 2245 and 2315 hours the Lahad proxy militia fired five 155-mm artillery shells at Wadi al-Habib from the Abu Qamhah position.

25 November 1999

At 0200 hours the collaborators' militia launched three illumination flares over the sea off Bayyadah from the Radar hill position.

Between 0615 and 0645 hours the proxy militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at Wadi al-Kafur and Judun from the Zafatah position.

At 0710 hours the collaborators' militia fired seven 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal Jabbur from the Ahmadiyah hill position.

Between 1335 and 1350 hours occupation forces fired four 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Jibal al-Butm and Yatar from the Tall Ya'qub position.

At 1500 hours occupying forces fired several 120-mm mortar shells, direct-fire rounds and 155-mm artillery shells at Mlita hill and the area around Sujud hill from the Rayhan position.

Between 1500 and 1705 hours the Lahad proxy militia fired 29 120-mm mortar shells at the area around Jabal Jabbur and at Jabal Ayn al-Tinah and Jabal Habib from Ahmadiyah hill.

Between 1625 and 1920 hours Israeli occupation forces and the collaborators' militia fired 47 155-mm artillery shells and eight 81-mm mortar shells and directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at outlying areas of Haddatha, Rshaf, Tibnin, Yatar, Kafra, Haris, Jibal al-Butm, Zibqin, Izziyah, Shu'aytiyah and the areas around the Dahr al-Maydan and Shaqif al-Naml positions from the positions at Tall Ya'qub, Dahr al-Maydan, Shaqif al-Naml and Shal'abun hill.

Between 1755 and 2000 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Jabal Bir al-Dahr and Libbaya and carried out mock attacks. The Lahad militia collaborating with Israel also launched five illumination flares and fired three 120-mm mortar shells and five 155-mm artillery shells at the area around the Zimriya crossing and Jabal Bir al-Dahr from the Zaghlah hill and Abu Qamhah positions.

At 1815 hours Israeli occupation forces and the Lahad militia collaborating with them fired several 155-mm artillery shells, 120-mm mortar shells and direct-fire rounds and directed a number of bursts of medium-weapons fire at the Yuhmur lowland, the Masha' neighbourhood and Qasr Ghandur area of Nabatiyah al-Fawqa, the area around Ali al-Tahir hill and Yuhmur town from the positions at Qal'at al-Shaqif (Château de Beaufort), Dabshah hill, Burj hill, Ali al-Tahir hill and Zafatah. In Yuhmur three dwellings belonging to Abbas Husayn Zuhur and Khayr Allah Najib were hit. Raghda Khayr Allah Sa'id collapsed and suffered a nervous breakdown. In Nabatiyah, the collaborators' militia also directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at an ambulance setting out for Yuhmur.

At 2005 and 2010 hours Israeli warplanes attacked the Mazra'at al-Hamra vicinity in two waves, firing two air-to-surface missiles.

26 November 1999

At 0120 hours the collaborators' militia launched two illumination flares over an outlying area of Mansuri from the Hardun position.

Between 0945 and 1005 hours the proxy militia directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at the Mimis ridge from the position at the Zimriya crossing.

At 0545 hours Israeli warplanes attacked areas along the Tasah spring, firing two air-to-surface missiles.

At 1710 hours the proxy militia fired several direct-fire rounds and directed bursts of medium-weapons fire at the easternmost neighbourhood of Kafr Tibnit and the area around the crossing from Burj hill and Ali al-Tahir hill. The home of Muhammad Faqih and Muhammad Ali Yasin was hit.

Between 1900 and 2100 hours occupying Israeli forces and the Lahad proxy militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and direct-fire rounds and directed bursts of medium-weapons fire at the areas around the castle, Sujud hill and Tahrah hill and at Jabal al-Rafi' from the positions at Zafatah, Tahrah hill and Qal'at al-Shaqif (Château de Beaufort).

Between 1820 and 1845 hours the collaborators' militia fired 12 120-mm mortar shells at an area south of Khalawat from the Abu Qamhah position.

At 2250 hours several 120-mm mortar shells fired from the occupied strip impacted on Jabal Safi, in the area around Sujud hill and in areas along the Tasah spring.

It transpired that, when the collaborators' militia fired direct-fire rounds at the easternmost neighbourhood of Kafr Tibnit, the exterior walls of

two dwellings were hit by shrapnel. The two houses are owned by Ali Husayn Ayyub and Husayn Muhammad Ali Yasin. In the attack on areas along the Tasah spring, a civilian vehicle belonging to Ali Wahbi was hit.

27 November 1999

Between 0000 and 0600 hours the Lahad proxy militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal Safi from the Zafatah and Ahmadiyah hill positions.

At 1500 hours the proxy militia directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at outlying areas of Majdal Zun and Mansuri from the Shama' position.

At 1500 hours the same militia fired several 120-mm mortar shells at areas along the Habbush River from the Zafatah position.

Between 1915 and 1920 hours the collaborators' militia fired several 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal al-Rafi' from the Zafatah position.

At 2110 hours the Lahad proxy militia fired five 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal Jabbur from the Ahmadiyah hill position.

28 November 1999

Between 0000 and 0030 hours an Israeli gunboat off Adlun launched two illumination flares over the sea.

Between 0400 and 0530 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 0100 and 0250 hours the proxy militia fired several 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal al-Rafi' from the Zafatah position.

Between 1035 and 1300 hours occupying forces and the militia collaborating with them fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm mortar shells and directed a number of bursts of medium-weapons fire at Jabal al-Rafi', Mlita hill and the area around Dabshah hill from the Zafatah and Dabshah hill positions.

At 0400 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions. It also launched an illumination flare over the Mansuri shore.

Between 0425 and 0550 hours Israeli occupation forces and the Lahad militia collaborating with them directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire from Ba'lul hill and Dabshah hill at the Qasr Ghandur vicinity and the areas around the same two hills.

Between 2155 and 2200 hours the proxy militia fired four 155-mm artillery shells at Jabal al-Rahibat from the Abu Qamhah position.

Between 2215 and 2240 hours the proxy militia fired four 81-mm mortar shells and directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire from the Ba'lul hill position at the area around the position itself.

29 November 1999

Between 1045 and 1100 hours occupying Israeli forces and the Lahad proxy militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Yatar and the area around Sujud hill from the Tall Ya'qub and Zafatah positions.

Between 1520 and 1710 hours the proxy militia and Israeli occupation forces fired 23 60-mm, 81-mm and 120-mm mortar shells and directed bursts of medium-weapons fire at outlying areas of Majdal Zun, Tiri, Rshaf and Adshit al-Qusayr from the positions at Ruwaysat al-Jamus, Ruways, Muhaysibat, Dahr al-Maydan, Hardun hill and Qusayr.

At 1535 hours the Lahad proxy militia directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at Mlita hill from the Sujud hill position.

Between 1540 and 1550 hours occupying Israeli forces fired four 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Kafra from the Tall Ya'qub position.

At 1720 hours Israeli warplanes attacked areas along the Tasah spring in two waves, firing two air-to-surface missiles.

Between 1800 and 1910 hours occupying Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at the Yuhmur lowland and Mazra'at al-Hamra from the Shurayfah hill position.

At 2000 hours the collaborators' militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Jba' from the Zafatah position.

Between 2000 and 2030 hours the proxy militia fired two 120-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Majdal Zun from the Hardun hill position.

30 November 1999

Between 0430 and 0500 hours an Israeli gunboat off the Ghillah lowland fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

At 0645 hours the proxy militia directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at areas along the Tasah spring from the Sujud hill position.

Between 0905 and 0915 hours occupation forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at Jabal al-Rafi' from the Shurayfah position.

Between 1030 and 1125 hours the proxy militia fired five 81-mm and 120-mm mortar shells at the outskirts of Bra'shit from the Ba'lul hill position.

Between 1050 and 1225 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Bekaa, Mount Lebanon, Beirut and the South at very high altitudes, breaking the sound barrier.

At intervals between 2150 and 2310 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Kasrawan and Jubayl areas, coming from the sea and heading north.

The Lebanese Government strongly condemns the continued Israeli occupation and the fresh attacks and arbitrary practices against the Lebanese civilian population that have left a number of dead and wounded and have caused further serious damage to property.

Like previous attacks, this new series is in flagrant violation of the sovereignty and independence of Lebanon and constitutes a breach of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, of international law and of basic human rights.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sélim TADMOURY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1273
22 December 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 21 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, and in view of the continuing illegal Iranian occupation of the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates, and of the ongoing attempts by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran forcibly to impose on the islands a fait accompli by implementing numerous unlawful and illegal measures with a view to annexing them and bringing them under Iranian sovereignty by coercive means, I hereby inform you that my Government requests the Security Council to retain in the list of matters of which it is seized the item entitled "Letter dated 3 December 1971 from the Permanent Representatives of Algeria, Iraq, the Libyan Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/10409)", which relates to the question of the Iranian occupation of the islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates, until such time as the Islamic Republic of Iran ends its illegal occupation, and sovereignty over and de facto control of these islands is restored to the United Arab Emirates.

My Government takes this opportunity to reaffirm the commitment of the United Arab Emirates to security and stability in the Arabian Gulf region and its readiness to abide by the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad J. SAMHAN
Permanent Representative

99-40098 (E) 231299 231299

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1274
22 December 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 21 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit a copy of a note verbale with its enclosure dated 30 November 1999, from the Interests Section of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Washington, D.C., addressed to the Embassy of Pakistan, to be forwarded to the United States Department of State on the violation of the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran by the military forces of the United States of America in the Persian Gulf region (see annex).

It would be highly appreciated if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hadi NEJAD HOSSEINIAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

99-40104 (E) 231299

/...

Annex

Note verbale dated 30 November 1999 from the Interests Section of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Washington, D.C., addressed to the Embassy of Pakistan in Washington, D.C.

The Interests Section of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Washington, D.C., presents its compliments to the Embassy of Pakistan and has the honour to transmit the attached message received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran (see enclosure). It is respectfully requested that the text be transmitted to the United States Department of State and that our office be informed of its response.

Enclosure

According to information received from the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 19 September 1999, a United States warship at the position of N4922 and E2945 and radius of two miles about Boyuyeh number 6 and the entrance of Khor-e-Moussa was engaged in operations. At 1225 hours the said warship at the position of N2947 and E4947 entered the Islamic Republic of Iran's waters and without paying any attention to the warnings, and radio communications from the Iranian forces positioned in the region, chased an Iranian commercial vessel.

Hereby, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly protests the entrance of the United States warships into the territorial waters of the Islamic Republic of Iran that are in clear violation of the principles of international laws and regulations. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran demands that these illegal actions come to an end and not be repeated.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1275
22 December 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 22 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I regret to inform you again of massacres perpetrated from 15 to 22 November 1999 by the Rwandan aggressors against Congolese civilians in the occupied eastern territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The Rwandan troops buried alive 15 Congolese women in the farming villages of Bulinzi, Bongombe and Ngando in the Mwenga territory, Sud-Kivu province, Democratic Republic of the Congo. These burials took place after the women had been completely coated with pepper.

The victims are as follows:

1. BITONDO Evelyne (Bulinzi village);
2. MBILIZI MUSOMBWA (Bulinzi village);
3. SAFI Christine (Bulinzi village);
4. KUNGWA Agnès (Bulinzi village);
5. NAKUSU Nakipimo Monique (Bulinzi village);
6. TABU Wakenge (Ilinda village);
7. NYASA Kasandule (Ilinda village);
8. MAPENDO Mutitu (Ilinda village);
9. BUKUMBU (Ilinda village);
10. Wife of MWAMI KISALI;
11. Mama SIFA;
12. Mama MUKOTO;
13. Another woman not yet identified;
14. MUKUNDA (Bongombe village);
15. MBILIZI Kyandundu (Ngando village).

The Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo notes that since the beginning of the war of aggression, several massacres have been committed with impunity by the aggressors in clear and serious violation of the relevant provisions of the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977. The Government therefore reiterates its requests for investigation of all these violations of international humanitarian law with a view to punishing the violators.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo requests the Security Council to condemn these massacres and to take steps to bring their perpetrators to justice.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) André Mwamba KAPANGA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1276
23 December 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON DEVELOPMENTS IN GUINEA-BISSAU AND ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-BUILDING SUPPORT OFFICE IN THAT COUNTRY

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 14 of Security Council resolution 1233 (1999) of 6 April 1999, by which the Council requested me to keep it regularly informed and to submit a report to it by 30 June 1999 and every 90 days thereafter on developments in Guinea-Bissau and the activities of the United Nations Peace-building Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS).

2. Members of the Council will recall that in my last report of 29 September 1999 on developments in Guinea-Bissau and the activities of UNOGBIS (S/1999/1015), I outlined the progress that UNOGBIS had made in carrying out its mandate to help consolidate the peace and democratization processes in Guinea-Bissau. I highlighted, in particular, the work of UNOGBIS towards helping to create propitious technical and political conditions for the holding of the legislative and presidential elections on 28 November 1999.

3. The present report covers developments in Guinea-Bissau since 29 September 1999, including preparations for and conduct of the 28 November elections.

II. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

4. Since my last report to the Council, the political situation in Guinea-Bissau has been dominated by preparations for and the holding of the 28 November legislative and presidential elections.

5. As preparations for the elections unfolded, with the direct assistance of UNOGBIS and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the principal leaders in the country, including the interim President, the Prime Minister, the leaders of political parties and the military establishment, reaffirmed their commitment to the organization of the elections as scheduled. The military authorities specifically reiterated their public pledge not only to support the ongoing peace and democratic processes but also to transform the armed forces

00-22240
99-40116 (E) 231299

into a more professional republican army subordinate to civilian authorities following the elections.

6. Efforts by a faction of the military establishment to perpetuate the military's traditionally dominant role in the country's political life were thwarted when a proposed addendum to the Constitution, called the Magna Carta, was rejected by political leaders and was subsequently withdrawn. The political and military leaders reaffirmed the supremacy of the Constitution, which provides for the rule of law in Guinea-Bissau.

7. Meanwhile, relations between Guinea-Bissau and its neighbours have generally continued to improve, strengthened further by the efforts of my Representative, Samuel Nana-Sinkam, who, working closely with the Governments concerned, has sought to help consolidate peace and security throughout the subregion. To that end, he visited Senegal and Guinea from 8 to 15 November, as I had outlined in my letter dated 13 October to the President of the Council (S/1999/1091). Bilateral relations with Guinea-Bissau's international partners received a significant boost when the financial contributions pledged for the elections were fully disbursed in time for the elections.

8. Internally, there was a noticeable relaxation in the political climate during the period under review. Newspapers have resumed publication, new journals have emerged and private radio stations have begun broadcasting again. As a result, the population at large has become increasingly involved in the political life of the country; political dialogue has regained prominence and, as was evident during the electoral campaign, is increasingly characterized by tolerance and respect for opposing views.

9. To further promote national reconciliation and tolerance, my Representative appealed to the candidates contesting the 28 November elections to concentrate on issues, not personalities, and to refrain from exploiting social, religious and ethnic differences for political gains. It also became increasingly clear that the proposed amendment to article 5 of the Constitution, which would have barred from high public office anyone whose parents were not indigenous to the country, was perceived as divisive and has been shelved until the new National Assembly is in place following the elections.

10. On the occasion of this year's observance of United Nations Day, UNOGBIS organized, from 22 to 24 October, a national soccer tournament, comprising teams having different ethnic, political and religious backgrounds, and drawn from different parts of the country. This highly successful event, the first of its kind since 1996, was watched also by senior political and military leaders.

III. THE LEGISLATIVE AND PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS OF 28 NOVEMBER 1999

A. Overview

11. Twelve presidential candidates, with four independent candidates among them, contested the office of the presidency. The candidates included interim President Sanha, the candidate of the African Party for the Independence of

Guinea and Cape Verde (Partido Africano da Independencia da Guine e Cabo Verde (PAIGC)), Kumba Yala, the leader of the Party for Social Renewal (Partido para a Renovação Social (PRS)), Joaquim Balde of the Social Democratic Party (Partido Social Democratico (PSD)) and Abubacar Balde of the National Union for Democracy and Progress (União Nacional para a Democracia e o Progresso). Tatis Sa, Fernando Gomes, Salvador Tchongo and Dr. Faustino Imbali ran as independent candidates. To win in the first round of the elections, a candidate had to receive 50 per cent of the vote plus one vote.

12. In the legislative elections, candidates from 13 political parties contested 102 seats of the National Assembly. Two seats were allocated to represent Bissau Guineans living abroad, one for the African diaspora and the other for the European diaspora.

13. The organization and conduct of the elections fell to the National Electoral Commission (CNE), which faced severe constraints, including weak national institutions, lack of resources and poor infrastructure.

B. Technical and financial electoral assistance

14. At the request of the Government of Guinea-Bissau, the United Nations, through UNDP, provided technical assistance during the various stages of the electoral process. A technical assistance team, comprising a chief technical adviser and experts on election administration, logistics, information systems, electoral registration and civic education, was deployed to assist CNE. The team also assisted CNE in developing an operational plan, which entailed the procurement, delivery and collection of polling station materials, computerization of the voters' lists, identification of polling stations and the training and deployment of poll workers.

15. To support the electoral process, the international community provided both financial resources and in-kind contributions. In particular, the European Union (EU), the Netherlands and Japan contributed, through UNDP, approximately US$ 4.5 million, while Portugal, Brazil and the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP) provided in-kind contributions. For the coordination of electoral observation, Germany and Sweden provided in-kind contributions amounting to some US$ 52,000 and US$ 30,000 respectively, while France contributed 1 million francs (F) (about US$ 110,000) to the UNOGBIS Trust Fund in support of election-related activities.

16. With the technical assistance of the UNDP team, CNE successfully registered some 502,678 potential voters, representing approximately 91.2 per cent of the eligible voting population, and initiated a massive civic education campaign to inform and educate the electorate on the electoral process.

C. Electoral campaign

17. The electoral campaign ran from 5 to 26 November 1999. To facilitate free and fair political dialogue, UNOGBIS organized a Forum for Open, Fair and Transparent elections that ran from 10 to 26 November. The Forum culminated in

a televised final round-table discussion on 26 November during which the presidential candidates addressed the electorate and answered questions from moderators. UNOGBIS, in collaboration with UNDP and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), also organized a Seminar to Promote the Participation of Women in Political Life, from 19 to 20 November 1999. The Seminar, which brought together 43 women candidates representing 13 political parties from all regions of Guinea-Bissau, focused on the importance of uniting their efforts to improve the quality of life for all women in the country.

18. On the eve of the elections, on 24 November 1999, I issued a statement in which I commended all those inside and outside Guinea-Bissau who had contributed to making the elections possible. I called on all concerned parties, including the military, to ensure that the elections were conducted in a free, fair and transparent manner and without interference. I also reaffirmed the readiness of the United Nations to support the electoral process until its conclusion and to assist the new Government in building a sustainable climate for peace and reconciliation, conducive to economic reconstruction and development.

D. International electoral observation

19. At the request of the Government, UNOGBIS coordinated international observation of the elections, with the participation of 88 short-term observers drawn from the following 19 countries, invited by the Government: Angola, Belgium, Benin, Canada, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Guinea, Mozambique, the Netherlands, the Niger, Nigeria, Portugal, Senegal, Spain, Sweden, Togo and the United States of America. The observers participated either on behalf of their respective States or as part of delegations from the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the International Organization of la Francophonie or CPLP. The observers covered over 40 per cent of the 2,003 polling stations.

E. Voting day, 28 November 1999

20. Over 80 per cent of eligible voters participated in the elections. Despite initial reports of delays in the starting of operations in some polling stations due to transportation problems and the slow delivery of electoral materials, the situation improved by midday on voting day and largely stabilized. To compensate for the delay, voting was extended until 29 November in those few stations where it had started late.

21. On the whole, voting proceeded in a peaceful and orderly manner and no major incidents were reported. The overall situation in the country remained calm throughout the vote count, which began immediately after the closing of the polling stations in the presence of representatives of political parties and international observers.

22. On 30 November, international observers, in a joint communiqué, declared that the voting had taken place in a "climate of civility, serenity, transparency and sincerity" and in accordance with the electoral laws of Guinea-Bissau.

F. Results of the elections

23. On 9 December, CNE published the official results which showed that, in the legislative elections, PRS, the party headed by Kumba Yala, had won 38 of the 102 seats in the National Assembly, the largest single share. Guinea-Bissau Resistance (RGB) took second place with 28 seats, while PAIGC, the current ruling party, came third with 24 seats. However, CNE later officially revised the count and allocated one more seat to RGB, raising its share to 29 seats. Five other parties shared the remaining seats. None of the parties gained an absolute majority in the National Assembly.

24. In the presidential elections, Kumba Yala obtained 38.81 per cent of the vote, followed by interim President Sanha with 23.37 per cent. None of the 12 presidential candidates received the required majority. Consequently, in accordance with the electoral law, which provides for a run-off within three weeks of an inconclusive first round of voting in a presidential poll, a second round has been scheduled for 16 January 2000.

IV. MILITARY AND SECURITY ASPECTS

25. Although the internal security situation in the country has remained calm, the circulation of small arms among the civilian population continues to raise concern, especially for public law and order. The military still maintains a visible presence in public and continues to perform routine police functions. Police units are beginning to take up position in Bissau, but the process continues to be hampered by the lack of appropriate training and logistic means.

26. Meanwhile, the military leaders recently sought to quell concerns raised over reports of new recruitment into the armed forces by explaining that the recruitment was meant not to increase the size of the armed forces, but simply to replace servicemen earmarked for demobilization.

27. As plans for demobilization and reintegration have continued to advance, a World Bank mission visited Guinea-Bissau and carried out a comprehensive feasibility study, while a joint team from the Department of Political Affairs and the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat undertook an assessment mission to the country from 1 to 6 November 1999 to assist the work of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force established on the ground to promote civilian disarmament. To that end, the Task Force, under the coordination of UNOGBIS, and with the active support of the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), has continued to develop a programme of incentives to encourage civilians to surrender their weapons. The programme is planned to be implemented once the second round of the presidential elections is held and a new government is in place.

28. With regard to the border security concerns that had been raised by the authorities, members of the Council will recall that, in my report of 29 September 1999, I promised to revert to the Council regarding the recommendations of a small mission I had dispatched to Guinea-Bissau to look into the transitional Government's request for international military observers

to monitor the situation along the borders with Guinea and Senegal and provide a measure of confidence among the population during the electoral period. It should also be recalled that, on 13 October 1999 (S/1999/1091), I wrote to the President of the Council informing him that the mission had found that the situation along the borders with Guinea and Senegal was tenuous and recommended the deployment of approximately 200 military observers. After considering their recommendations, I concluded that it was preferable at that juncture to take a number of interim measures, while keeping the option of deploying international military observers open.

29. As a first interim measure, I requested my Representative and his Military Adviser to visit Senegal, Guinea, the Gambia and the secretariat of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to brief those parties on the thrust of the report of the assessment mission and to encourage Senegal and Guinea to set up, with Guinea-Bissau, joint monitoring mechanisms along their common borders and other confidence-building measures.

30. My Representative, accompanied by his Military Adviser, visited Senegal and Guinea from 8 to 15 November 1999 and plans to travel to the Gambia and the ECOWAS secretariat upon the conclusion of the ongoing electoral process in Guinea-Bissau. The visit to Senegal and Guinea revealed the need to continue to build confidence among the countries of the subregion and to establish a propitious climate for agreement on specific security enhancement and monitoring mechanisms. As the situation in the area remains complex, it emerged from my Representative's discussions with the authorities that continued United Nations support, as well as that of regional organizations, especially ECOWAS, was vital to helping Guinea-Bissau and its neighbours not only to consolidate their bilateral relations, but also to promote sustainable peace and progress throughout the subregion.

31. When the second part of the mission is completed and my Representative reports to me with his recommendations, I shall again revert to the Council on this issue. Meanwhile, my Representative will remain in close contact with the authorities of the countries concerned and will continue working with them to promote peace, security and cooperation among them.

32. With regard to the second interim measure indicated in my letter of 13 October to the President of the Council, I am pleased to report that frequent visits by my Representative and the United Nations country team as a whole, as well as by members of the diplomatic community, to various towns and villages throughout Guinea-Bissau have helped build confidence among the population, reassuring them that the international community remains an interested and committed partner. The positive response of several States and organizations to the Government's invitation to send electoral observers for the 28 November elections was seen as further evidence of the international community's solidarity with the people of Guinea-Bissau.

V. HUMAN RIGHTS ASPECTS

33. During the period under review, UNOGBIS remained in close contact with the Government, the National Assembly, the Judiciary, CNE, the military authorities

and civil society organizations in a concerted effort to promote respect for human rights in Guinea-Bissau.

34. In this connection, in September and October UNOGBIS carried out joint visits with the Government to various detention facilities during which concern was raised over the deplorable conditions under which the prisoners were being held. On 3 October, my Representative, in cooperation with the Government, led a second mission to visit prisons, this time accompanied by other representatives of the United Nations country team and members of the diplomatic corps. UNOGBIS has also continued to encourage and facilitate the acceleration of trial proceedings. To that end, UNOGBIS provided assistance for the training of 20 magistrates in an effort to help speed up the judicial process. At the same time, relevant United Nations entities have indicated their readiness to provide the necessary technical assistance to ensure fair and transparent trials, some of which could be observed by human rights experts.

35. In a move welcomed by UNOGBIS, the authorities, on 13 December, announced the release of 59 of the estimated 600 prisoners detained since the event of 7 May 1999.

VI. HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS

36. The country is currently in a transitional phase from humanitarian relief to reconstruction and rehabilitation. Cereal food production is generally satisfactory. United Nations organizations, in particular FAO and WFP, are providing assistance to vulnerable groups, with FAO concentrating on the horticulture agricultural sector and WFP responding to the needs of hospitals, nutritional centres and school canteens. Food-for-work programmes are being used to rehabilitate health centres, construct roads and build salt-water incursion dikes.

37. Activities in the health sector focus on rebuilding infrastructure damaged by the fighting, and on the reactivation of the 1998-2002 National Plan for Health Development sponsored by the World Bank, the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNFPA, UNDP and bilateral donors. A nationwide immunization programme against poliomyelitis was conducted on 30 and 31 October, with the support and participation of United Nations organizations.

38. The voluntary repatriation of Bissau Guinean refugees from neighbouring countries continued, under the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) auspices, during the period under review. In this connection, 232 refugees returned home from the Gambia, 855 from Senegal and 456 from Cape Verde. Once the necessary procedures are agreed with the two countries, UNHCR is prepared to help repatriate some 900 Bissau Guinean refugees who recently registered with the agency in the Boké area of Guinea (Conakry). UNHCR is also assisting over 6,000 refugees from neighbouring countries who have taken shelter in Guinea-Bissau, including about 5,500 Senegalese from the Casamance region and some 800 Sierra Leoneans and Liberians.

VII. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ASPECTS

39. The Government and the country's international partners have strongly reaffirmed the view that consolidation of the peace and democratization processes, including improvements in the areas of security and law and order, is essential for the sustainable revitalization of the economy. Progress continues to be made in restoring basic public and social services and the authorities have expressed their expectation that the successful conclusion of the electoral process and the emergence of a new democratic government will lead to the disbursement of the funds pledged for Guinea-Bissau's reconstruction efforts at the Round-table conference convened by UNDP in Geneva on 4 and 5 May 1999.

VIII. COORDINATION OF UNITED NATIONS ACTIVITIES

40. UNOGBIS and the entire United Nations country team continued to work closely as a team, particularly during the preparations for and conduct of the 28 November elections. Such cooperation made it possible for the United Nations system on the ground to provide a united front in support of the electoral process and to maximize the effectiveness of the assistance provided by the international community.

41. Cooperation between UNOGBIS and agencies operating in Guinea-Bissau is facilitated by and undertaken through a coordination mechanism on the ground that brings the various United Nations officials together on a regular basis to brief each other on their respective activities and also to consider possible joint initiatives, especially in support of reconciliation, the rule of law and electoral support.

IX. OBSERVATIONS

42. Holding the legislative and presidential elections on 28 November 1999, as scheduled, in an open, fair and transparent manner was an important step forward in the ongoing transition to democracy and the restoration of peace and normalcy in Guinea-Bissau. It is my hope that the results of the legislative elections signal the emergence of an era of pluralistic democracy.

43. I am pleased to note that UNOGBIS and the entire United Nations family on the ground worked together in support of the electoral process, especially during the critical preparatory phase.

44. I should also like to commend the international community for providing the necessary resources to make the organization of the elections and their observation possible. I wish to note that the electoral process is not yet over and take this opportunity to express my confidence that Member States and interested organizations will also provide assistance for the organization and conduct of the second round of the presidential elections scheduled for 16 January 2000.

45. Members of the Council will recall that in my last report (S/1999/1015), I informed the Council that Guinea-Bissau's transitional Government had requested

the extension of the mandate of UNOGBIS for one year, after its expiry on 31 December 1999, in order to assist Guinea-Bissau in the fragile post-electoral period; and that I should undertake to revert to the Council on the matter after consultations with the new Government that would have emerged from the elections. Since no candidate won the 28 November presidential elections, the formation of a new Government is not expected before February 2000, following the second round of voting scheduled for 16 January 2000. Therefore, as an interim measure, and following consultations with the current interim Government, it was recently agreed, in consultation with members of the Council, to extend the mandate of UNOGBIS for three months until 31 March 2000. I shall again revert to the Council on this issue, when the new Government is in place.

46. Against this rather positive background, I cannot help but register again my concern about the continued detention of military and political prisoners in appalling conditions. The recent release of a number of them is a welcome step and I appeal to all concerned in Guinea-Bissau to speed up the judicial process and to take action to improve the conditions of those prisoners who remain in detention.

47. The continued success and effectiveness of UNOGBIS in the fulfilment of its peace-building mission will continue to require the cooperation of the Government and the people of Guinea-Bissau as well as the availability of adequate resources. I am grateful to those Member States that have made contributions to the Trust Fund established to support the activities of UNOGBIS in Guinea-Bissau and I appeal for continued and additional support. The unwavering support of the international community is crucial for the consolidation of the emerging democratic regime and for meeting the challenges of ensuring sustainable peace and progress in Guinea-Bissau.

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1277
27 December 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 23 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GEORGIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit a statement dated 22 December 1999 issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Peter CHKHEIDZE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

99-40180 (E) 281299

/...

Annex

Statement dated 22 December 1999 issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

Georgia is deeply concerned by the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation dated 21 December 1999, which absolutely without foundation accused Georgian authorities of "launching a noisy campaign of attacks against Russia", aiding Chechen terrorists, attempting to upset the friendly relations between Russia and Georgia etc.

Having itself experienced all the consequences of aggressive separatism and international terrorism, Georgia has always called for uniting efforts in the struggle against this evil. That has been our position since the situation in the North Caucasus first began to deteriorate because we do not accept the use of different standards to settle similar issues. Georgia has repeatedly appealed to the Russian side to renounce unsubstantiated declarations and accusations and to coordinate the actions of the corresponding structures of the two States with a view to contributing to the stabilization of the situation.

In reply, we have heard only new unfounded accusations. Unfortunately, the latest statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation has also been made in the same spirit.

It has been repeatedly explained to the Russian side why Georgia has refrained from allowing the use of its territory by Russian military and border troops in the process of their operation in Chechnya. Such a step would inevitably be followed by a spillover of military operations onto Georgian territory, a destabilization of the South Caucasian region that would be fraught with irreparable consequences for Russia itself.

At the same time, in order to remove mutual suspicions the Georgian side has offered to deploy Russian and Georgian observers, respectively, on the Chechen and Abkhazian segments of the Georgian-Russian State border.

Because of the delay by the Russian side in resolving the issue, Georgia has appealed to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to organize an international observation mission on the Chechen segment of the Georgian-Russian border, with the participation of Russian representatives. The Russian representative also voted for a positive resolution to be passed by the OSCE Permanent Council on the issue.

The Russian side must also be aware of the contents of the conclusion reached by the OSCE mission after its visit to the environs of Shatili village, which did not reveal the least trace of the alleged presence of Chechen fighters. Thus, the accusations included in the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, with a reference to OSCE representatives concerning "Chechen fighters feeling themselves at ease on Georgian territory", is pure invention.

Equally ungrounded in fact are the accusations of Georgia opening a "window" through the border, "supplying fighters with arms, ammunition and finances", or intending to accommodate the so-called "Chechen government in exile" in Georgia. As to Chechen separatists allegedly holding negotiations with the representatives of the international terrorist Ben Laden, that claim has been refuted by Russian law enforcement agencies themselves.

Georgia, as a democratic State guided by the principles of humanism and strictly adhering to its international commitments, could not deny grant of asylum to thousands of women, children and elderly people fleeing military operations, or deny medical assistance to the sick and seriously wounded. The Russian side is well aware that in Georgia itself there are hundreds of thousands of refugees from Abkhazia and South Ossetia who have no access to the most basic living conditions. It was this situation that compelled Georgia to appeal to the United Nations, other international organizations and friendly States, including Russia, to render assistance in the face of the aggravated humanitarian situation.

It is bewildering that in view of the above the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation is accusing Georgian authorities of "supporting separatists and terrorists, providing them with a platform for anti-Russian pronouncements" and undermining Russian-Georgian relations. Such accusations can only be regarded as cynical. The role played by certain forces of Russia in the tragic events in Abkhazia, Georgia, when specially trained Chechen fighters were smuggled in to support the Abkhaz separatists, is universally known. For several years now, in spite of the insistent demands of Georgia to extradite the international terrorist Igor Giorgadze, he has enjoyed an obvious patronage in Russia, being regularly, including in recent days, provided with a platform for subversive statements against Georgia.

The Russian side has not yet found it possible to acknowledge the repeated shelling of Georgian territory by the Russian air force, and still stubbornly disclaims the obvious facts in spite of the existence of undisputable evidence and even witnesses in the person of the representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited to Tbilisi and journalists.

It is noteworthy that a further shelling by the Russian air force of the borderline territory of Georgia, resulting in the wounding of four Georgian border guards, took place on 22 December 1999, after the issuance of the above-mentioned statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia categorically refutes the slanderous accusations addressed to Georgia, and affirms that such accusations against a sovereign State, especially on the threshold of presidential elections in Georgia, can be interpreted as an unfriendly step with far-reaching consequences, all responsibility for which rests with the Russian side.

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1278
27 December 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 24 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to forward the report of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the situation of negotiations with the Republic of Croatia in connection with the resolution of the disputed issue of Prevlaka (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

99-40186 (E) 281299

/...

Annex

Report of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the situation of negotiations with the Republic of Croatia in connection with the resolution of the disputed issue of Prevlaka

Under paragraph 5 of Security Council resolution 1252 (1999) of 15 July 1999, a report is herewith submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the situation of negotiations between the delegations of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia on the solution of the disputed issue of Prevlaka.

The delegations of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia on negotiations for the solution of the disputed issue of Prevlaka held their fourth and most recent meeting at Belgrade on 9 March 1999, after which the two sides exchanged argumentation on which each of the sides bases its claim as to where the inter-State border in the area of Prevlaka extends. After the meeting, there followed an interruption in the negotiations due to the aggression of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Upon the termination of the aggression of NATO, conditions were created for the resumption of negotiations, and on 14 July 1999 the Chairman of the Yugoslav delegation, Rodoljub Etinski, informed the Chairman of the Croatian delegation, Hrvoje Kacic, that the Yugoslav delegation was ready to resume negotiations without delay, and that, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the negotiations, the Yugoslav side expected that Croatia would propose the holding of the fifth meeting of delegations at Zagreb.

The Croatian side has not yet extended the Yugoslav side a concrete invitation to the meeting.

Its readiness to resume the negotiations and a comprehensive consideration of prepared argumentation was expressed by the Yugoslav side in the report submitted to the Secretary-General on 5 October 1999, as well as in a number of conversations of Yugoslav representatives with United Nations representatives. Clearly, the Yugoslav side cannot be blamed for the impasse in the negotiations.

In order to further the process of negotiations on the disputed issue of Prevlaka and to overcome the objections mentioned in the reports of the Secretary-General, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has taken a constructive approach by the decision to replace the units of the Army of Yugoslavia in the north-western part of the area (Bjelotina) by members of the police. That decision of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia represents its gesture of good will and a contribution to a speedier solution of this disputed issue.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expects the United Nations Mission of Observers in Prevlaka (UNMOP) to abide by its mandate in an unchanged form as expressed in the last report of the Secretary-General of 12 October 1999, in which it was noted that the zone under United Nations control (the so-called "Blue Zone") falls within the exclusive competency of the United Nations,

pending an agreement by the sides in the area (see S/1999/1051, para. 4). Also, the Yugoslav side expects that the Croatian side will carry out the obligations stemming from the Security Council resolution and the report of the Secretary-General relative to the maintenance of the regimes of the "Yellow Zone" and the "Blue Zone" in particular, the regime of which the Republic of Croatia has been drastically violating ever since the establishment of the United Nations Mission in Prevlaka. The UNMOP call for a consistent compliance with the regime of the "Blue Zone", contained in the "Procedures for the improvement of security in the area of the Prevlaka Peninsula" of May 1996, was addressed primarily to the Croatian side. It was requested in the Procedures that the zone under United Nations control (also known as the "Blue Zone") be completely vacated from military and police personnel, as well as equipment belonging to the sides, and that the United Nations maintain a constant presence in that area as a guarantee of demilitarized status of the area pending a final solution of the issue.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia points out that the Croatian side is not authorized to request a decision that the status of the "Blue Zone" be modified or that UNMOP be withdrawn since such a request is contrary to article 4 of the Agreement on Normalization of Relations between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia signed at Belgrade on 23 August 1996 (S/1996/706, annex), in which it is agreed that until mutual agreement on Prevlaka is reached, the Contracting Parties will respect the existing security regime established through United Nations monitoring.

The change of the regime of UNMOP without agreement of both sides is not only contrary to the said provision but would also aggravate and complicate the process of the solution of the dispute through negotiations.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia reiterates its readiness to continue bilateral negotiations on the solution of the disputed issue of Prevlaka under article 4 of the Agreement on Normalization of Relations and the rules of international law.

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1279
27 December 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 26 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 24 December 1999 addressed to you by Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, giving details of a fresh Turkish incursion into northern Iraq that began on 30 November 1999, coinciding with the hostile military actions being perpetrated against Iraq on a daily basis by the United States of America and the United Kingdom, and calling upon the United Nations to meet its responsibilities as laid down in the Charter and halt the intimidation and aggression to which Iraq is being subjected.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 24 December 1999 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to the letter dated 7 December 1999 addressed to you by the Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq (S/1999/1231, annex), I should like to call your attention to the fact that on 30 November 1999 units of the Turkish armed forces consisting of 45 transporters carrying 1,000 Turkish troops entered Iraqi territory from the Dashtan region and took up positions in the Kani Masi sector. At the same time, Turkish armed forces backed by tanks and heavy artillery and supported by helicopters entered the Jabal Karah and other areas in order to carry out acts of military aggression in the territory of northern Iraq. Furthermore, on 3 December 1999 Turkey massed additional military forces in the Turkish area of Çukurca opposite the Kani Masi region on the pretext of pursuing armed Kurdish groups. This incursion caused serious losses in terms of life and property to Iraqi Kurdish citizens in the region.

This act of aggression by Turkey is the latest in a series of recurring attacks by its forces against Iraq's territory, and it coincides with the hostile military actions being perpetrated against the country on a daily basis by the United States of America and the United Kingdom.

The ongoing series of hostile operations and the flagrant violations of Iraq's territory and airspace that are being committed by the Turkish armed forces only confirm Iraq's repeated warnings against the consequences of the duplicitous policy being pursued by Turkey vis-à-vis the anomalous situation in northern Iraq and against its participation in perpetuating that situation for the implementation of the United States and British scheme to use its territory as a base from which to impose the no-flight zones in northern and southern Iraq and prevent the restoration of legitimate authority there.

In condemning the renewed Turkish aggression, the Government of Iraq calls upon the Turkish Government to withdraw its invading forces from Iraqi territory. It reserves in full its right to determine a time and a place to respond to this bellicose act, and it affirms the right of the Republic of Iraq, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, to ensure that Turkey bears full international responsibility for the consequences of its recurring acts of aggression, its violations of Iraq's sovereignty and its exposure of Iraq's security and territorial integrity to the gravest risks.

As I express the hope that the United Nations will fulfil its responsibilities as stipulated in the Charter and will halt the constant intimidation and aggression to which my country is being subjected, I ask you to do your utmost to urge the Turkish Government to comply with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of international law by withdrawing its armed forces from Iraq's territory forthwith.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHAF

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1280
27 December 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 24 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to forward the letter dated 23 December 1999 from Mr. Momir Bulatović, President of the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, addressed to you, relative to the question of Prevlaka.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIĆ
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

99-40235 (E) 291299

/...

Annex

Letter dated 23 December 1999 from the President of the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to address you in connection with the forthcoming consideration of the mandate of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Prevlaka (UNMOP) in the Security Council.

I would like to point out that my Government highly appreciates the contribution made by the United Nations Mission to the preservation of stability and the established system of security in the region of Prevlaka.

On behalf of the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, I am addressing you with a request that the Security Council extend the mandate of UNMOP for another period of six months, beginning on 15 January 2000.

Let me inform you of the current situation in connection with the solution of the disputed territorial issue of Prevlaka.

The delegations of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia for negotiations on the solution of the disputed issue of Prevlaka held their last, 4th meeting on 9 March 1999, whereafter the two sides exchanged argumentations on which each side bases its claim as to where the inter-State border in the area of Prevlaka extends. After that meeting, there followed an interruption of negotiations because of the aggression of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. By the termination of the aggression of NATO, conditions have been created for the resumption of negotiations and the Chairman of the Yugoslav delegation, Rodoljub Etinski, on 14 July 1999 informed the Chairman of the Croatian delegation, Hrvoje Kacic, that the Yugoslav delegation was ready to resume negotiations without delay. Also, it was said that the Yugoslav side expected that, in accordance with the rules of procedure of negotiations, Croatia should propose the holding of the next, 5th meeting in Zagreb.

The Croatian side has not yet extended to the Yugoslav side a concrete invitation to the meeting.

I would like to inform you that in the past period the Yugoslav side expressed its readiness to negotiate and consider comprehensively and completely the prepared argumentations both in the report submitted to the Secretary-General on 5 October 1999 (S/1999/1027, annex) and in a number of conversations of Yugoslav representatives with the representatives of the United Nations. From it all, it is clearly seen that the Yugoslav side cannot be blamed for the impasse in the negotiations.

In order to further the process of negotiations on the disputed issue of Prevlaka and to overcome the objections mentioned in the reports of the Secretary-General, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has taken a constructive approach by its decision to replace the units of the Army of Yugoslavia in the

north-western part of the area (Bjelotina) with members of the police. That decision of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia constitutes its gesture of good will and a contribution to a speedier solution of that disputed issue.

Attaching to the presence of the United Nations in Prevlaka a decisive importance for the resumption of negotiations in good faith pending a solution of the disputed issue by the two sides through negotiations, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia requests UNMOP to carry out its mandate consistently and in an unchanged form. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expects the Croatian side to carry out the obligations stemming from the Security Council resolution and the report of the Secretary-General relative to the maintenance of the regime of the Yellow Zone, and the regime of the Blue Zone in particular, the regime of which the Republic of Croatia has been drastically violating ever since the establishment of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Prevlaka. This request is in accordance with the Agreement on Normalization of Relations between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia, signed at Belgrade on 23 August 1996 (S/1996/706, annex, article 4), in which the two sides have undertaken to solve this important question through mutual negotiations, and "until mutual agreement on Prevlaka, the Contracting Parties are agreed to respect the existing security regime established through United Nations monitoring".

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expects that, in order to preserve peace and security in the region and to find a solution to the disputed issue of Prevlaka through negotiations, the Security Council will decide to extend the mandate of UNMOP until 15 July 2000 in an unchanged form.

(Signed) Momir BULATOVIĆ

UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/54/694
S/1999/1281
28 December 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 63
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 27 December 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 22 December 1999, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 63, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Volkan VURAL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

00-22366
99-40209 (E) 281299

/...

ANNEX

Letter dated 22 December 1999 from Mr. Aytuğ Plûmer addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letters dated 2 and 30 November 1999 (A/54/522-S/1999/1120 and A/54/642-S/1999/1211, respectively) addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative at the United Nations, which contain allegations of "violations of the airspace of the Republic".

It will be recalled that similar allegations of so-called "airspace violations" were rejected in toto in our previous communications addressed to you, most recently in my letter dated 13 October 1999 (A/54/463-S/1999/1059, annex). Since the current allegations are no different from the preceding ones, they do not merit a detailed reply. I wish to reiterate, however, that flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and consent of the appropriate authorities of the State, over which the Greek Cypriot administration in the South has no jurisdiction or any right of say whatsoever.

The repeated allegations made by the Greek Cypriot administration are based on the false and unacceptable premise that its sovereignty extends over the whole island. This posture is completely detached from the current realities in the island, namely, the existence of two sovereign peoples and their respective states, and constitutes a major impediment to a comprehensive settlement.

In order to facilitate a realistic settlement, it should be openly acknowledged that the purely Greek Cypriot administration, whose jurisdiction extends only over the area of the island under Greek Cypriot control, is not and cannot be the Government of the Turkish Cypriot people or the island as a whole.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 63, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aytuğ PLÛMER
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1282
27 December 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 27 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to forward herewith the statement by the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia concerning the so-called Croatian initiative, namely, the attempt to challenge the membership of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Charge d'affaires a.i.

99-40241 (E) 291299

/...

Annex

Statement by the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

At the session held on 23 December 1999, chaired by Prime Minister Momir Bulatovic, the Federal Government discussed and adopted the information on the so-called Croatian initiative, namely, on an attempt to challenge the membership of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations by the former Yugoslav republics.

The Federal Government noted that this initiative was completely in contradiction with the signed agreements on normalization of relations and the need for good-neighbourly relations and stabilization of the situation in the region. Furthermore, this initiative runs counter to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law in general. For the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, its membership in the United Nations is undeniable, completely legitimate and in accordance with all the principles enshrined in the Charter. In this context, Yugoslav diplomacy has undertaken extensive and efficient activities aimed at protecting the membership of our country in the United Nations and reaffirming the principles of universality and legality in international relations.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia highly appreciates the large number of countries that have supported our arguments and positions and thereby enhanced the role of the United Nations and opposed the growing hegemony in international relations which seriously threatens the independence and interests of a large number of countries and of smaller countries in particular.

This attempt to make a dangerous precedent of expulsion of a Member State of the United Nations was met with massive opposition from non-aligned and Latin American countries which considered that the membership of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations is indisputable and which assessed that the acceptance of this initiative would be detrimental for the world organization.

The Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China, as permanent members of the Security Council, stood up in defence of the legitimate rights of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia as well as of the basic principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and gave our country significant support in line with their principled policy and our traditionally friendly relations.

European Union member States called upon the former Yugoslav republics to call off their action to challenge the membership of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations.

The Federal Government assessed that this initiative had failed and that it had produced an effect completely opposite to that which was intended. The position of a large number of countries helped protect the rights of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and at the same time reaffirmed the international reputation and position of our country.

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1283
28 December 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 28 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 751 (1992) CONCERNING SOMALIA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Somalia (see annex), which was adopted by the Committee under the no-objection procedure on 28 December 1999 and is being submitted in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 March 1995 (S/1995/234).

(Signed) Jassim Mohammed BUALLAY
Chairman
Security Council Committee established
pursuant to resolution 751 (1992)
concerning Somalia

99-40247 (E) 281299

/...

Annex

Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Somalia

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Somalia covers the period from January to December 1999.

2. A report of the Committee covering its activities from January to December 1998 was submitted to the Security Council on 28 December 1998 (S/1998/1226).

II. SUMMARY OF THE COMMITTEE'S ACTIVITIES DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

3. For 1999 the bureau consists of Mr. Jassim Mohammed Buallay (Bahrain) as Chairman, with the delegations of the Gambia and the Netherlands providing the two Vice-Chairmen.

4. On 12 May 1999, the Committee approved, on a no-objection basis, a request from Denmark regarding importation of explosives for a humanitarian demining project in north-west Somalia.

5. In two statements by the President of the Security Council (S/PRST/1999/16 of 27 May 1999 and S/PRST/1999/31 of 12 November 1999), the Council expressed deep concern at recent reports of the illicit delivery of weapons and military equipment to Somalia, in violation of the arms embargo imposed by the Council in its resolution 733 (1992), which could exacerbate the crisis in Somalia and endanger the peace and security of the region as a whole. The Council further reiterated its call upon States to observe the arms embargo and requested Member States having information on violations of the provisions of resolution 733 (1992) to provide the Committee with that information.

6. The Committee held its 15th meeting on 20 December 1999 to exchange ideas on effective implementation of the arms embargo against Somalia and on strengthening the work of the Committee. The Committee viewed the effective implementation of the sanctions regime, particularly in the light of the Djibouti initiative, as more necessary than ever to underline the firm commitment of the international community to establishing a lasting peace in Somalia.

7. In that connection, the Committee also considered several proposals made at the meeting and requested the outgoing Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Jassim Mohammed Buallay of Bahrain, to brief the incoming Chairman, to be elected in January 2000, on those proposals for subsequent action by the Committee.

III. OBSERVATIONS

8. The Committee does not have any specific monitoring mechanism to ensure the effective implementation of the arms embargo and would like to recall its previous observations that it relies solely on the cooperation of States and organizations in a position to provide information on violations of the arms embargo.

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1284
28 December 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 28 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF LEBANON TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Lebanon hereby requests the Security Council to extend the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), which expires on 31 January 2000, for a further interim period of six months, on the basis of the provisions of Security Council resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978) in view of the fact that Israel continues to occupy Lebanese territory in defiance of the above-mentioned Security Council resolutions.

Israel's occupation of parts of southern Lebanon and the Western Beqaa is also marked by daily violations by the Israeli military forces of Lebanese territory, airspace and territorial waters well beyond the occupied areas.

Furthermore, the civilian population living under Israeli occupation suffers attacks at the hands of the Israeli occupying forces, as well as hardships and kidnappings by the score, while hundreds more have been detained for years in the infamous detention camp of Alkhiam and in Israeli jails without due process of law, in defiance of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and related Protocols.

Lebanon hereby calls for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 425 (1978), in which the Council calls upon Israel to cease its military action against Lebanese territorial integrity and withdraw forthwith its forces from all Lebanese territory.

Meanwhile, UNIFIL's continued deployment represents the international community's commitment to the restoration of Lebanon's full sovereignty and territorial integrity, as set out in Security Council resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978).

I take this opportunity to confirm Lebanon's commitment to the Middle East Peace Process in order to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East on the implementation of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973).

The Government of Lebanon considers that it is vital that the operational strength and capacity of UNIFIL be maintained at least at its current level.

The Government of Lebanon avails itself of this opportunity to pay tribute to the UNIFIL Command, administrators, troops and troop-contributing countries for their noble efforts and sacrifices made in the cause of the implementation of the UNIFIL mandate.

Furthermore, the Government of Lebanon wishes to express to you and your assistants its deep appreciation for your tireless efforts, which contribute to the valuable presence of UNIFIL in southern Lebanon.

I would be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Selim TADMOURY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1285
28 December 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 23 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 1270 (1999) of 22 October 1999 by which the Security Council established the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) with an authorized strength of a maximum of 6,000 military personnel. As I described in my report of 28 September 1999 (S/1999/1003), the Secretariat has made every effort to expedite the deployment of UNAMSIL. A substantial number of UNAMSIL troops, in particular from Ghana, Kenya and India, are already on the ground. The deployment of UNAMSIL is currently expected to be completed in January 2000.

At the same time, the report indicated that the deployment of UNAMSIL at its currently authorized strength was predicated on the continuing presence in Sierra Leone of the Military Observer Group (ECOMOG) of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). In this regard, I had extensive contacts with leaders from the region to impress upon them the need to maintain a sizeable presence of ECOMOG in Sierra Leone to perform the vital functions of providing security at Freetown and the international airport at Lungi, and protecting the Government of Sierra Leone.

In a letter dated 7 December 1999, President Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria notified me that his country would be withdrawing its troops from ECOMOG as United Nations troops are deployed in Sierra Leone. In this connection, President Obasanjo informed me that Nigeria could not accept the presence in the same country of two peacekeeping forces under separate commands and operating under different conditions. On 15 December, I had a telephone conversation with President Obasanjo to convey my deep concern about the repercussions which a premature withdrawal of ECOMOG might have on the security situation in Sierra Leone. In particular, I appealed to the President to review his decision to withdraw Nigerian troops from ECOMOG, and asked that their departure be postponed at least until further discussions had taken place between the Government of Nigeria and the United Nations. To this end, I suggested that a high-level military delegation from Nigeria visit United Nations Headquarters. I confirmed these views in a letter dated 16 December 1999 addressed to President Obasanjo. At present, the Nigerian Chief of Army Staff is visiting United Nations Headquarters for discussions on the incorporation of Nigerian units in UNAMSIL and the modalities of the withdrawal of Nigerian troops from ECOMOG.

However, on 21 December 1999, President Obasanjo confirmed to my Special Representative for Sierra Leone, Mr. Oluyemi Adeniji, that Nigeria would gradually withdraw its troops from ECOMOG in the following manner: Nigeria would deploy the two battalions it has pledged to contribute to UNAMSIL and repatriate two of its battalions serving with ECOMOG in the first half of January 2000. By the end of January, two other Nigerian battalions would be withdrawn from ECOMOG. The repatriation of Nigerian troops from Sierra Leone would be completed in February 2000. In addition, I have been informed that the remaining contributors to ECOMOG, Ghana and Guinea, are also preparing to withdraw their troops from ECOMOG as well. This implies that, for all intents and purposes, by the beginning of the new year ECOMOG would be unable to continue performing its vital functions of providing security at Freetown and the international airport at Lungi, and protecting the Government of Sierra Leone. At present, UNAMSIL has neither the mandate nor the means to perform these tasks.

As the Security Council will recall, in paragraph 50 of my report of 28 September (S/1999/1003), I indicated that, in the eventuality of the withdrawal of Nigerian troops, a reassessment would be required of the security conditions in Sierra Leone as it passed through the sensitive process of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration. I also indicated that I would revert to the Security Council with further proposals, addressing the additional tasks for and the possible strengthening of the United Nations force to assume the functions now fulfilled by ECOMOG. In the eventuality of a full withdrawal by ECOMOG, I envisaged that a much stronger United Nations force of about 10 infantry battalions would be required.

I am very much concerned that the repatriation of ECOMOG troops in the immediate future, without adequate security protection provided by other peacekeepers, would create a dangerous security gap in the key areas of Lungi and Freetown. It could also have a negative impact on the maintenance of a climate of confidence, which is crucial to the successful execution of the programme of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of the many Sierra Leonean ex-combatants.

The situation in Sierra Leone continues to pose a threat to peace and security in the region. I therefore recommend that the Security Council authorize, as soon as possible, the expansion of UNAMSIL with the addition of up to four infantry battalions and necessary military support elements. The total strength of an expanded UNAMSIL would thus be close to 10,000 military personnel. I also recommend that the mandate of UNAMSIL be broadened to enable it to assume the functions now performed by ECOMOG, in particular the provision of security at Lungi airport and at key installations, buildings and government institutions in and around Freetown. These new tasks would also require more robust rules of engagement for the entire United Nations force.

It is important that UNAMSIL, through its military capabilities and posture, be able to deter any attempt to derail the Sierra Leonean peace process. The four additional battalions would therefore have to be robustly equipped, including the necessary force multipliers. The additional troops and their equipment should arrive as soon as feasible in Sierra Leone and would therefore have to be transported by air. The expansion of UNAMSIL, as described

above, would also imply a strengthening of its administrative and logistical support capacity.

A more detailed concept of operations for an expanded UNAMSIL and an estimate of the financial costs will be included in my next periodic report to the Security Council on UNAMSIL, which is due on 20 January 2000. In this report, I will also include recommendations concerning the strengthening of the United Nations role in support of the Sierra Leonean police, since the withdrawal of ECOMOG forces is likely to have immediate repercussions on the maintenance of law and order in Sierra Leone in which ECOMOG has been playing an important role.

In the meantime, the Secretariat has initiated planning and discussions with potential contributors on the expeditious deployment, if authorized by the Security Council, of additional troops to UNAMSIL. I am also informing the Government of President Alhaji Ahmad Tejan Kabbah of Sierra Leone of the modalities of the deployment of an expanded UNAMSIL.

As I make these recommendations, I should like to reiterate my deep appreciation for the vital role which ECOMOG has played in bringing peace to Sierra Leone. The international community owes a debt of gratitude to those countries and to the troops who, at high cost and considerable sacrifice, remained alongside the people of Sierra Leone during their darkest hour. Their contribution will not be forgotten.

I should be grateful if you would bring this urgent matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1286
29 December 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 21 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 845 (1993) of 18 June 1999 concerning the difference between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, by which, inter alia, the Council requested me to keep it informed on the progress of further efforts under my auspices.

By a letter dated 13 September 1995 my predecessor transmitted the interim accord (S/1995/794) to the members of the Security Council. As you and your colleagues are aware, in article 5 of the interim accord, the parties agreed to continue negotiations under the auspices of the Secretary-General, pursuant to resolution 845 (1993). You will also recall that, by a letter dated 10 November 1997 (S/1997/890), I conveyed to the Council my decision to appoint Mr. Matthew Nimetz as deputy to my Personal Envoy, Mr. Cyrus Vance. Negotiations between the parties under my good offices have continued, with the most recent meeting on 6 December 1999.

My Personal Envoy, Mr. Cyrus Vance, has informed me of his resignation from his position for personal reasons. I have accepted his resignation with great reluctance, and wish to pay tribute to him for his untiring efforts and invaluable service to the United Nations. I will certainly miss the benefit of his wise counsel and his tenacity and graciousness in dealing with this very delicate issue.

In light of Mr. Vance's resignation, and with the consent of the parties, I have decided to appoint his deputy Mr. Matthew Nimetz, a national of the United States of America, as his replacement and my Personal Envoy. As you are aware, Mr. Nimetz has been involved in the negotiation process since March 1994 and has chaired the continuing talks between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia since November 1997.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

99-40309 (E) 291299

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1287
29 December 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 23 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 21 December 1999 (S/1999/1286), concerning your decision to appoint Mr. Matthew Nimetz (United States of America) to replace Mr. Cyrus Vance as your Personal Envoy, has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the decision contained in your letter.

(Signed) Jeremy GREENSTOCK
President of the Security Council

99-40315 (E) 291299

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1288
29 December 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 27 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALI TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement by the Government of the Republic of Mali dated 25 December 1999 concerning the military coup d'état that occurred in the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 24 December 1999 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Moctar OUANE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement by the Government of Mali

The Government of the Republic of Mali strongly condemns the military coup d'état that occurred in the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on Friday, 24 December 1999.

Reaffirming its opposition to the taking of power by force, which is a break with the democratic process and republican legality, the Government of Mali calls upon those who carried out the coup d'état to return to constitutional legality.

In view of the major crisis which that fraternal country is undergoing, the people and Government of Mali reiterate their strong solidarity with the fraternal people of Côte d'Ivoire and express their determination to support all efforts aimed at establishing, in peace and dialogue, the conditions of republican and democratic legality, to which the Ivorian people and all our peoples aspire.

Bamako, 25 December 1999

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1289
29 December 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONCERNING THE CREDENTIALS OF THE REPRESENTATIVES AND DEPUTY AND ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ELECTED FOR THE PERIOD 2000-2001

At its 34th plenary meeting, on 14 October 1999, the General Assembly elected Bangladesh, Jamaica, Mali, Tunisia and Ukraine as non-permanent members of the Security Council for a term of two years beginning on 1 January 2000.

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that, with regard to the representation of the members of the Security Council elected for the period 2000-2001, he has received the communications referred to hereunder.

Bangladesh: Credentials from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh, signed on 13 December 1999, stating that Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury has been appointed representative of Bangladesh on the Security Council and Mr. F. A. Shamim Ahmed, Mr. Shahdat Hossain, Mr. M. Ruhul Amin and Mr. Muhammad Ali Sorcar alternate representatives.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.

Jamaica: Credentials from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica, signed on 8 November 1999, stating that Miss M. Patricia Durrant has been appointed representative of Jamaica on the Security Council, Mr. Curtis Anthony Ward deputy representative and Mrs. Diane Marie Quarless, Mr. David Allen Prendergast and Miss Joan Elaine Thomas alternate representatives.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.

Mali: Credentials from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mali, signed on 20 December 1999, stating that Mr. Moctar Ouane has been appointed representative of Mali on the Security Council and Mr. Sékou Kasse, Mr. Cheickna Keita, Mr. Issouf Oumar Maiga, Mr. Illalkamar Ag Oumar and Mr. Mahamane Maiga alternate representatives.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.

Tunisia: Credentials from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia, signed on 1 November 1999, stating that Mr. Ali Hachani has been appointed representative of Tunisia on the Security Council, Mr. Mokhtar Chaouachi and Mr. Mohamed Slah Tekeya deputy representatives, and Mr. Fadhel Ayari, Ms. Radhia Achouri, Mr. Ali Cherif, Mr. Anouar Ben Youssef and Ms. Nabiha Hajjaji alternate representatives.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.

Ukraine: Credentials from the President of Ukraine, signed on 3 December 1999, stating that Mr. Volodymyr Yu. Yel'chenko has been appointed representative of Ukraine on the Security Council and Mr. Valeriy P. Kuchynskiy deputy representative.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.

Note verbale dated 21 December 1999 from the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations stating that Mr. Volodymyr G. Krokhmal has been appointed alternate representative on the Council.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, that communication constitutes adequate provisional credentials.

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1289*
30 December 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONCERNING THE CREDENTIALS OF THE REPRESENTATIVES AND DEPUTY AND ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ELECTED FOR THE PERIOD 2000-2001

At its 34th plenary meeting, on 14 October 1999, the General Assembly elected Bangladesh, Jamaica, Mali, Tunisia and Ukraine as non-permanent members of the Security Council for a term of two years beginning on 1 January 2000.

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that, with regard to the representation of the members of the Security Council elected for the period 2000-2001, he has received the communications referred to hereunder.

Bangladesh: Credentials from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh, signed on 13 December 1999, stating that Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury has been appointed representative of Bangladesh on the Security Council and Mr. F. A. Shamim Ahmed, Mr. Shahdat Hossain, Mr. M. Ruhul Amin and Mr. Muhammad Ali Sorcar alternate representatives.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.

Jamaica: Credentials from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica, signed on 8 November 1999, stating that Miss M. Patricia Durrant has been appointed representative of Jamaica on the Security Council, Mr. Curtis Anthony Ward deputy representative and Mrs. Diane Marie Quarless, Mr. David Allen Prendergast and Miss Joan Elaine Thomas alternate representatives.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.

Mali: Credentials from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mali, signed on 20 December 1999, stating that Mr. Moctar Ouane has been appointed representative of Mali on the Security Council and Mr. Sékou Kasse, Mr. Cheickna Keita, Mr. Issouf Oumar Maiga, Mr. Illalkamar Ag Oumar and Mr. Mahamane Maiga alternate representatives.

---

* Reissued for technical reasons.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.

Tunisia: Credentials from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia, signed on 1 November 1999, stating that Mr. Ali Hachani has been appointed representative of Tunisia on the Security Council, Mr. Mokhtar Chaouachi and Mr. Mohamed Slah Tekeya deputy representatives, and Mr. Fadhel Ayari, Ms. Radhia Achouri, Mr. Ali Cherif, Mr. Anouar Ben Youssef and Ms. Nabiha Hajjaji alternate representatives.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.

Ukraine: Credentials from the President of Ukraine, signed on 3 December 1999, stating that Mr. Volodymyr Yu. Yel'chenko has been appointed representative of Ukraine on the Security Council and Mr. Valeriy P. Kuchynskiy deputy representative. Credentials from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, signed on 3 December 1999, stating, inter alia, that Mr. Volodymyr G. Krokhmal has been appointed alternate representative on the Council.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.